### Russia denies sending arms to Serbia

MOSCOW (R) — Russia Monday denied a British newspaper report that it was supplying sophisticated weapons to Serb forces in Yugodavia despite a U.N. arms embargo. The Observer newspaper said Sunday the arms, including missiles, had been reaching Serbia and Serb-held areas of Bosnia and Croatia under secret deals with Russia. "This newspaper second does not correspond to reality." the Russian Foreign Ministry said report does not correspond to reality," the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement. "It is obvious disinformation. We regret that such nonsense could appear on the pages of such a newspaper as the Observer." The Observer said Russian generals concluded the agreements on arms supplies with Serbian leaders at talks in Romania and bullowing Coding on the Control of C Bulgaria, ending on Jan. 22 at a time when Serbia feared the United States might launch strikes against Serb targets. Bulgaria's army Chief of Staff General Lyuben Petrov denied the report of state television on Sunday. "We have no such information about anything like that," he said. Miroslav Darmov, from the Bulgarian parliamentary commission for national security, added that "Sofia and Bucharest could not be the best, places for secret negotiations, because they could be eavesdropped."



An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصعر بالانجليزية عن للؤسسة المسطعة الاربنية والراي

#### Egypt bars hardline preachers

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's Religious Affairs Minister Mohammad Mahjoub said scholars preaching militant thoughts have been banished from mosques as part of a government campaign to fight a rising fundamentalist influence. Mr. Mahjoub told Reuters in an interview that scholars preaching extremist ideas were no more than some dozens. "Those have been removed because they carried extremist ideas which they tried to enforce on our youths," he added. He said the government, realising that Muslim militants were using mosques to recruit followers and promote the establishment of an Islamic caliphate, had decided since November to bring all mosques and prayer rooms under its direct control. About 50 per cent of Egypt's 120,000 mosques and prayer rooms were now governmentcontrolled and the takeover of the rest would end in 1995. He said lack of control over the establishment of religious centres had made it easy for militants to infiltrate them. "Our mosques became platforms for the extremists to spread their perverted and terrorist thoughts by preaching the Islamic call through using force, attacking non-Muslims and stirring trouble with the aim of destabilising Egypt," Mr. Mahjoub said. (See related story on page 2)

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AMMAN TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1993, RAMADAN 9,1413

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#### Senior Iraqi envoy meets Ben Ali

TUNIS (R) — Barzan Ibrahim Al Tikriti, political adviser to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, met Tunisia's President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali Monday. Mr. Tikriti told reporters be carried a message from President Saddam to the Tuoisian president. He did not go into details. President Saddam appointed Mr. Tikriti, his half brother, as political advisor last week with the rank and salary of a cabinet minister. As Iraq's envoy to the U.N. mission in Geneva since 1989, he has led behind-the-scenes efforts to rebuild Iraq's diplomatic links with other Arah countries and erode the isolation imposed on Baghdad for its 1990 invasion of

#### Islamic chieftain arrested in Algeria

ALGIERS (AP) - A commander of the armed Islamic extremists who have wrought havoc in Algeria for the past year has been arrested, police confirmed Monday. Ikhlef Cherati was arrested Friday in the suburh of Al Harrach, where he directed extremist operations in a conflict that has killed some 600 people, including 250 soldiers and police officers. The arrest marks a significant blow against Muslim fundamentalists who reject last year's military coup that blocked the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) party from legally winning power in parliamentary elections.

#### Riina denies being mafia superboss

PALERMO, Sicily (R) — Salvatore "Toto" Riina Monday, appeared in court for the first time since his arrest six weeks ago and denied he had been the mafia's superboss. Mr. Riina, accused of ordering hundreds of killings, told a court he was an innocent "lightning rod" for Italy's many problems and had been ed hy so-ca pentant" mafiosi. The 62-yearold, whose arrest ended nearly a quarter of a century of life on the run, told the court was "just a worker" and a "poor farmer." Testifying for about an hour under heavy security in a courtroom in Palermo's Ucciardone Prison, Mr. Riina said he had no reason to order the killings of

#### Russia moves to ratify START II

MOSCOW (R) — The Russian partiamentary leadership sent the START II nuclear arms treaty to key committees for consideration Monday, a necessary first step in ratification of the pact hy the full parliament. The START II treaty, signed by former U.S. President George Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin in January, commits the two sides to reducing their total number of strategic nuclear warheads to 3,000 to 3,500 units each by 2003. Hardliners in parliament and the armed forces, unhappy about the cuts which will bite deep into Russia's force of land-based missiles, have served notice they will oppose the government in its drive for ratification. ITAR-TASS news agency said the parliamentary praesidium did not discuss the treaty Monday before sending it to the Committee for Defence and Security and the Committee for International and External Economic Links. The treaty requires a simple majority of votes in the conservativedominated Supreme Soviet (standing parliament) to be rati-

#### Demjanjuk begins 3-day hunger strike

TEL AVIV (AP) - John Demjanjuk, convicted in Israel as the Nazi camp guard "Ivan the terrible," started a three-day fast Monday to protest a delay in the ruling on his appeal, his lawyer said. "Nine months have passed, nothing has happened," attorney Yoram Sheftel said of the supteme court deliberations. "Any jury in the Western world would come to its conclusions within one hour." Mr. Sheftel said the three day fast, marking seven years in detention for Demjanjuk, was a "warning strike" dur-ing which he would only drink water. He did not say under what circumstances further strikes would take place.

# Israel seals off Gaza after Palestinian kills 2, stabs 9 in Tel Aviv

Islamic Jihad claims responsibility for attack

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel will close off the occupied Gaza
Strip indefinitely, the army
Tel Aviv arou announced Monday after a Gaza Palestinian stabbed to death two Israelis and wounded nine others in the heart of Tel Aviv.

The general closure will take effect at 3:00 a.m. (1:00 GMT) and will prevent some 35,000 day labourers from reaching their jobs io Israel, the army said. It added the closure was to examine entry permits and prevent vio-

lence between Arabs and Jews. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin threatened to retaliate for the attack by a 19-year-old Arab with "measures that will be painful" for other residents of the occupied Gaza Strip but told Israelis ooly peace talks could provide a permanent solution.

Ichilov hospital said two men died - a 27-year-old Russian immigrant and a 28-year-old owner of a hair salon - and nine other Israelis were wounded. The only woman attacked was in critical condition. Two men were in serious conditioo.

"According to the details we have, he acted alone when he planned to attack Jews as a result of disappointment that he had not found work," Yaacov Raz, deputy police chief of Tel Aviv, told

Shelling and

continue in

S. Lebanon

security sources said.

rocket attacks

TYRE (Agencies) - Israel's

militia ailies shelled two South

Lehanou villages Monday,

Army (SLA) militia.

An estimated 70 artillery shells

hit the villages and surrounding

ares where guerrillas are active just ontside Israel's self-styled "security zone" in the south.

A communique from Hizbollah

said Monday's attackers launched

at least five mortar shells at an outpost of the SLA in Tallousse in the central sector of the "secur-

The communique said the outpost was burned down and all its

Majdal Silm and Qabrikha are

policed by the Ghanaian batta-

lion of the United Nations In-

terim Force in Lebanon (UNI-

FIL) which was deployed in South Lebanon in 1978 after

Israel's first incursion into Leba-

Parts of the U.N.-policed zone overlap with Israeli-held terri-

The bombardmeni started after

Hizbollah guerrillas bit an SLA

position at Tallousse on the edge

of the zone with anti-tank rockets

and missiles and machinegunfire.

was wounded, the sources said.

several hours after about 300

residents of the village of Libbaya buried a trader killed Sunday when an Israeli helicopter fired a

A passenger in the van was

wounded in the helicopter raid

shortly after a clash between guerrillas and Israeli forces.

zone" fired more than 24 rockets

at northern Israel Saturday as

artillery and rocket duels raged

between Hizbollah and Israeli

Separately, the Israeli army announced that unidentified.

attackers fired a number of rock-

ets at an Israeli patrol in the eastern sector of the "security

"As a result, a soldier was

slightly wounded and treated on

the spot. Fire was returned to the

source of fire," an army state-

Guerrillas ootside the "security

rocket into his van.

and SLA forces.

At least one SLA militiamen

The assaolt was launched

occupants were killed.

ity zone."

The attack occurred in south Tel Aviv around 7.40 a.m. (0540 GMT) in a husy hloe-collar neighbourhood of houses and shops a hlock from the city's main bus station.

The man ran down three streets stabbing indiscrimioately before bystanders caught and severely beat bim. Palestinian sources identified him as Ziyad Salim Silmi, 19, from Gaza City. An Islamic Jihad leader said in

Damascus that Silmi had acted on its behalf in the stabbings in response to Israel's expulsion to South Lebanon of 415 Palesti-But Islamic Jihad activists in the Gaza Strip said while Silmi

was an active member of their group, be acted alone, Silmi had never been arrested, they said, but his brother had served a 14-month prison term for membership in Islamic Jihad. "He had no orders to kill

Israelis," said an Islamic Jihad activist, who spoke on condition he would not be named. Israelis on both sides of the

political spectrum said the attack showed the need to stop Gazan workers from entering Israel. Up to 30,000 cross into Israel daily. Mr. Rabin told Israel Radio

that closing off the occupied territories was "something that

obviously could be done. But he ruled out a permanent ban on Gazans working in Israel, which would increase poverty

that already fuels unrest. Mr. Rabin also said it seemed the attacker acted alone and did not belong to a "terrorist" organisation.

"Therefore we will take steps bring some sort of isolation for a certain amount of time," said Mr. Rabin.

"But in the end, without coming to a political solution, the reality of mixing (Palestinians) ... in the area of Israel has within it the potential that a murderous madman like this will rise up," Mr. Rabin said.

We must continue with the (peace) process, we must come to a political solution and until then all possible measures must be taken to reduce meaningfully murderous terrorist attacks."

Energy Minister Amnon Rubinstein, from the left-wing Meretz Party said it was time for Israel to weigh both getting oot of Gaza and barring Gazan Arabs "We find strange Rantisi's from entering Israel. "I think this murder which has

(Continued on page 5)

### Rabin sees pressure for pullout from all Golan

TEL AVIV (R) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has raised the Under the 1979 peace treaty drawal from the Golan Heights, fuelling a growing debate over the price he is willing to pay for peace with Syria.

wounding a civilian after resist-Mr. Rabin told an American ance forces injured a militiaman, Jewish group Sunday night it was hard to explaio why Israel had They said one civilian was wounded and some 15 homes returned all land seized from Egypt in 1967 in return for a were heavily damaged in Qabrikha and Majdel Silm villages in peace treaty but did not want to hand back all the Golan in exthe retaliatory shelling by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon change for peace with Syria.

"We are trying our best that the precedent of the price of peace that Israel paid for Egypt in territories, in the uprooting of settlements and the destruction of Yamit, will not be brought back," Mr. Rabin said.

Mr. Rabin had repeatedly said Israel would be willing only to withdraw from part of the Golan Heights, a strategic plateau dominating adjoining land in both Israel and Syria.

However, opposition parties in Israel have accused Mr. Rabin of preparing for a complete withdrawal from the land seized from

entire Sinai Peninsula, returning to the border existing at the start of the 1967 war.

Mr Rabin, who had expected the quickest progress in Middle East peace talks with Palestinians, has now focused on the prospects of a peace treaty with Israel has demanded that any

"territorial concessions" produce a complete normalisation of relations with Damascus, including open borders and trade. Washington wants Middle East

peace talks, now disrupted by Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians to Lebanon, to resume in April. Syria, while expressing sympathy for the Palestinians, has emphasised its interest in resuming the talks.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Saturday Israel would have to decide the fate of the Golan Heights by the Middle of this year. Mr. Peres said a political decision had to be made on the Syria in the 1967 Middle East war and retained after more fighting of an Israeli withdrawal.

### Economist accuses Israel of concealing Palestinian taxes

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) - A leading Palestinian economist said Monday Israel was collecting more than twice as many taxes from Arabs io the occupied territories as it said in a rare release of some budget figures

Al Najah University economics professor Atef Alawnah, who has pieced together information obtained from scattered official Israeli statistics, said he estimates the Israeli authorities collected over \$500 million from Palestinians in 1991 alone.

The "civil administration" the occupation authority - said Saturday that its current budget for the occupied territories was comprised of \$257 milbon collected from Palestinians and \$37.5 million contributed by the government of Israel.

The figures on taxes collected from Palestinians did not include social security or income taxes deducted from those working inside

Palestinians say Israel profits from taxes collected in the occupied territories. Israeli civil rights lawyer Avigdom Feldman bas asked Israel's high court to order publication of the full territories budget. The court is to hear the case Tuesday.

"The budget should include all income from Palestinians in the occupied territories whether employed in Israel or in the West Bank and Gaza," Mr. Alawnah

He said not only income and social security taxes collected in Israel but value added taxes and other duties Palestinians paid in Israel should be included. Lieutenant-Colonel Hanan

Rubin, spokesman for the policy chief in the occupied territories, said Saturday that Israel would publish the occupied territories budget for the first time since their seizure by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war to show "goodwill" towards the Palestinians.

The "civil administration" released the amount of the overall budget and total figures for development, salaries and purch-

Asked this week when the detailed budget would be released. Col. Rubin said: "In the meantime those are the only figures we are publishing."

The "civil administration" said that salaries accounted for 435 million shekels (\$155.36 million), purchases for 250 million shekels (\$89.29 million) and development for 142 million shekels (\$50.71 million) of the budget.



### PLO disagrees with evictee leader's rejection of U.S. compromise plan

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Pales-tine Liheration Organisation rights and Jerusalem," he added. (PLO) said Monday it disagreed with the Palestinian evictees' leader, Abdul Aziz Al Rantisi, who rejected linking a solution of the expellee crisis to a U.S. plan to resume Middle East peace

statements which want to limit the issues of the conflict to the direct issue of the expellees only," a PLO spokesman quoted by the Palestinian news agency WAFA

"Any attempt to separate the current expellees' issue from the main national issues would harm our people's and objective's unity, and signals that its authors Lebanon, rejected Monday a reare concentrating their interests ported six-point U.S. proposal to only on their own affairs, to the end the crisis over the evictees exclusion of the great sufferings and resume Middle East peace Bosnia

airdrops

'a mystery'

SARAJEVO (R) — U.S. cargo planes airdropped 21 tonnes of

emergency aid to besieged Mus-

lims in eastern Bosnia under cov-

er of darkness Monday but the

operation appeared to have mis-

"It is a parachute mystery," Sarajevo Radio said in a broad-

cast more than 12 bours after the

three C-130 planes had returned

to Germany from the first relief

drop of President Bill Clintoo's

U.S. Admiral James A. Lair

said Cerska, where Muslims have

been cut off from ontside help

controversial mercy mission.

sed its target.

The PLO's statement signals differences between the PLO and the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas in their approach to a solution of the expellee crisis and a resumption of stalled Arab-Israeli peace talks, Palestinian sources in Tunis said.

Hamas, the PLO's main rival in the occupied territories, is at the core of bardline Palestinian opposition to the peace talks. Many Hamas supporters were among the 415 Palestinians expelled by Israel II weeks ago.

Dr. Rantisi, a founding member of Hamas and leader of the 396 exiles who remain in South

ported by Palestinian sources weakened their position.

"Presenting the six points are a waste of time for Israel's benefit and are aimed at dissolving our cause, especially if Resolution 799 is lioked to these points," he

He reiterated the Security Council should take steps to implement its resolution, which demands the immediate return of the evictees to the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Resolution 799 was passed one

day after the Palestinians were expelled on Dec. 17. Israel refuses to implement it. "We warn of practices aiming

(Continued on page 5)

### Christopher confident of April peace talks

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Secretary of State Warren Christopher has said he is confident Middle East peace talks would resume in Washington to April and hinted at further easing of the crisis over Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians.

"I think the parties will agree to resume the conversations in April," Mr. Christopher said Sunday on NBC television's 'Meet the Press' programme.

Mr. Christopher said without

elaboration that he believed there would be developments shortly easing the peace talks obstacle of Israel's expulsion of the 415 Palestinians to Lebanon. "We think there may be some

things that are going to be happening in the near future that will be reassuring on that front," Mr. Christopher said. 'We also have, I think, a plan

for the solution or resolution of the deportees problem, which has kept them away from the table.' be said.

Mr. Christopher has just re-turned from a week of talks with Middle East leaders. He also issued a joint invitation along with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev in Geneva on Thorsday for Arabs and Israelis to resume talks in April.

#### Baz returns home

Osama Al Baz, political adviser to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, returned to Cairo Monday after talks with Israeli leaders about steps to resume the

Rida Shehatah, head of Mr. Mubarak's information office, said Dr. Baz had delivered a

(Continued on page 5)

### Hamas denies seeking to replace PLO, says diplomacy aims at stating stand

beration Organisation's (PLO) unease over the Islamic Resistance Movement's (Hamas) diplomatic contacts with Western embassies in Amman and PLO fears that the Islamic group was trying to play an alternative role to the PLO is unfounded, a

bebind Scrb siege lines since war erupted in Bosnia last April, had been the only target.

Adm. Lair, speaking aboard the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy in the Adriatie, said the six-hour mission had gone "just

like clockwork." But a radio ham in the snow bound moontain eoclave said none of the 30 crates of military rations and medical supplies that slid from the rear of the Lumber-

ing C-130s had yet been found. Some information from the field says there was something spotted in Serb-held territory, hut we can't say if it is humanitarian aid," the radio ham said on a link to Sarajevo.

"Houses were burning io some of the recently captured territory... maybe they (the U.S. aircrews) thought that was a signal to drop there." A Serb, who cut in on the radio

link, ws asked if Serbs had received any supplies from the air. "Nothing, nothing. We don't need anything," he replied.

Unconfirmed reports from Bosnian Muslims that Cerska

might be about to fall to Serbs were among accounts of fighting across the republic Monday. Bosnian Vice-President Ejup Ganic said he had no confirmation of anyone finding aid and urged bolder action by the Americans.

"In order for this to be a success that Americans have to repeat the drops over and over again. That's the only way to hit the target," Mr. Ganic told Reu-

See earlier story on page 8

### By Sana Atiyeh with the British, French, German

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - The Palestine Li-Hamas leader said Monday.

Hamas representative in Amman Mohammad Nazzal said the diplomatic offensive was not an effort to undermine the role of the PLO as the legitimate repre-sentative of the Palestinian people, but an effort to convince the West that Hamas was not a terrorist group.

"The PLO fears over our contacts with Western embassies is unfounded," Mr. Nazzal told the Jordan Times. "This move is not and should not contradict the efforts of the PLO since we are not trying to be the organisation's alternative representative."

and Italian ambassadors, and twice with U.S. diplomat Eric Gaudiosi after reports said the U.S. was labelling the Islamic movement as a "terrorist" organisation. The group is also trying to establish contact with Ammanbased ambassadors from member states of the U.N. Security Coun-

These meetings drew an angry reaction from PLO officials in Tunis, who have so far failed have to convince Washington to resume its dialogue with the PLO. The dialogue was suspended after an aborted attack on a Tel Aviv beach by a Palestiman factioo in May 1991. A senior PLO official io Am-

man described the Hamas diplomatic moves as "looking for a direct role to deal with the expulsion issue."

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, was referring to Israel's Dec. 17 expulsion of more than 400 Palesti-

nians, whom Israel said were

Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists. The official insisted that "Hamas has found itself cornered and its hands tied with the expulsion issue." "The expulsion crisis made

Hamas realise that the PLO was the only legitimate body which could deal with the crisis, since it is the only organisation internationally recognised as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people," the official ·But Mr. Nazzal dismissed

accosations that Hamas was trying to take over the role of the PLO, saying that establishing contacts with Western governments was a "legitimate right to avoid being labelled as terror-

Palestinian analysts, bowever, said that American acceptance to meet with Hamas representative while cootinuing its ban on contacts with the PLO was a part of U.S. efforts to pressure the PLO-

(Continued on page 5)

### **Disarray hits Progress and Justice** Party after elections shift leadership

By Nermeen Murad Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Progress and Justice Party (PJP), which has already had to weather what insiders call a "coup" against its former Interim President Zaid Hamzeh and a mass resignation of 34 founding members, bas not seen the end of its internal conflicts, party members said Mon-

Although not the first mass exodus in the party's short history. Sunday's resignation is perhaps the one that will most adversely affect the political success of the party despite pledges from the newly-elected leadership to continue carrying the message laid out by its founder, Jordan's Ambassador to the United Nations Adnan Abu Odeh.

On Sunday, 34 members including Dr. Hamzeh, five members of the central committee and a member of the executive committee resigned protesting what they described as "using the game"

of democracy to take control of the party." They were alluding to the elec-

tion of Ali Al Saad, a young businessman, as chairman of the party and the subsequent election of a majority of his supporters to tees. Most of those who resigned told the Jordan Times that Mr. Saad was politically inexperienced and that they did not feel

and social message of the party. "The people who jumped on the leadership of the party have nothing to offer politically," Dr. Hamzeh told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview. "They are just looking for positions and have forgotten about working towards what is best for the party."

that the new team is capable of

adding credibility to the political

The mass resignation could have been avoided if the elections to the central and executive committees were "more representative of the geographical and social array within the party," one party member said

The 19-member executive office has among its ranks five members from one city and another four from one tribe, giving it a tribal-district makeup rather than the more encompassing leadership and party structhe executive and central committure initially envisioned for the party, insiders say.

Party members who agree with the viewpoints of those who resigned Snnday say that they are upset by the way things were run after Mr. Saad was elected as chairman and oot by his success.

"There was a deviation from the path drawn out for the party," a party insider told the Jordan Times. "We were waiting for the results of the executive and central committee elections thinking that an attempt would be made to fix things," he said.
"That did not happen. What we got was a limping central commit-

(Continued from page 2)

tee and a paralysed executive

Somali warlord meets ultimatum

## New Palestinian party in occupied territories seen as a litmus for political waters

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter MMAN — The upcoming iniguration of the first politicparty in the occupied terri-

ries will mark the beginning ... a transfer of political power . m Palestinians in exile to .sc living under occupation, "...!estinian observers said this witel: after an organisational musting of the party leadership

cluded in Amman. The Palestinian Democratic Federation, a group of indegrandents, centrists, and former meinbers of Faieh and the Conceratic Front for the Liregulion of Palestine (DFLP) as well as several other mostly iest wing groups have formed what they claim will be "the" secular-centrist party in the occupied territories.

Known by the acronym FIDA, the group is headed at this interim stage by a icrusalem-based former political prisoner and DFLP memher. Samaan Khoury.

blr. Khoury has many of the characteristics that are particuing to FIDA. Since he hegan his political activities he joined ... DFLP when it was the anly Palestinian group with any popular support to call for consistence with Israel, i.e. a mo-state solution along the tines of U.N. Resolution 181, in 1988 he was charged by brieli authorities of being a leader of the Unified Leadership of the Intifada and sentenced to four years imprison-

CAIRO (RI — Egypt says "ex-

freitist group," the government's

term for Muslim militants, were

responsible for last Friday's

conting of a Cairo cafe which

One of the dead was among

thate who planted the bomb, interior Minister Abdul Halim

the semi-official newspaper Al

in the hombing had been de-tained. Security services had full

"formation on the rest of the

group and they would be arrested

A political violence in Cairo for

many years. The blast ripped

the dead were an Egyptian, a

area had launched a new cam-

... ga against Shifte rebels, bom-eding their voltages and poison-

An Information Ministry

spited by Iran, "which comes to

asoliesman said the report was

sustace whenever the date of the

Advate at the Security Council

The U.N. Security Council

to as imposed against Iraq since

.. August 1990 invasion of

arrivant. Respect of human rights

nd abstention from oppression

epiponents are among its key con-

driens for lifting this enthargo.

reported Sunday that "hundreds or men, women and children have

... on shoughtered since the start

close range artillery bomhard-

the year, many the victims of

The British weekly Observer

... their water.

within hours," he said.

...ding water pipes.

ecveral other people involved

killed three people.

Miram Monday.

While in jail he followed political events in the occupied territories as well as in Tunis, where the Palestine Liberacion Organisation (PLO) leadership is based. When the DFLP split in September 1991, Mr. Khoury decided to join the Tunis-based branch which was led hy Yasser Abed Rabbo, former deputy to DFLP chief

Nayef Hawatmeh.

"Facts on the ground do change and the DFLP has, on the whole, always adapted to those changes, Mr. Khoury said. "The people onder occupation have to face up to the change and have to live with Israel and the Israelis. That's why the majority of the DFLP members in the occupied territories backed the Tunis-based faction. The policies it was proposing were clos-er to reality than the policies drawn up in Damascus," he explained in an interview with the Jordan Times.

At the time of the split DFLP members in Tunis also called for sharing of decision-making responsibilities with people in the occupied territor-

ies.
"People in the territories look at the democracy that the Jews have in Israel ... We want the same for ourselves. We too want the man in the street to have a voice. The archaic centralised decision-making sys-tem is a thing of the past." Mr. Khoury said.

it was the innfada, says a Tunis-based advisor to Mr.

Turk and a Swede and the injured

included Egyptians. Americans,

Somalis, a Canadian and a

"The terrorist Imad Ahdul

Basit, who died in the cafe after

both his legs were blown off, was

one of those who planted the bomb in the cafe," Al Ahram quoted Mr. Musa as telling mem-bers of parliament in the Ghar-

hiva region Sunday.
He said one of the "extremists"

contacted a German news agency to claim responsibility for the

The agency's Cairo hureau

in Upper Egypt claimed responsi-

bility in the name of Al Gama'a

attacks in the last five months.

spent 10 days with Shiite rebels.

cult to reach from Iraq, but jour-

nalists often are escorted by re-

bels across the border from Iran.

The Baghdad government some-

times organises trips to that re-

gion, and the Information Minis-

try spokesman invited the West-

ern media to make such a trio.

countries can come to Iraq to visit

the marshes to acquaint them-

selves with the normal situation

there, and establish that what the

Observer has reported is a pure

fabrication," said the spokesman

in a written statement distributed

The spokesman accused the

to Baghdad-hased reporters.

Press and television corres-

The southern marshes are diffi-

Gama'a representatives con-

The bombing, which also in- chief, Joerg Fischer, said it had

jared 16 people, was the worst act reported that leaflets circulating

ineh a cafe crowded with Al Islamiya (Islamic Group), a

ryptians and young foreigners militant group which has carried

inking tea and coffee and out a series of tourist-related

new campaign in south

FACIIIDAD (AP) — Iraq Mon-the Strongly rejected altegations Middle East correspondent

a British newspaper that its Shyam Bhatia, who recently

acets periodically to review sanc-pondents in Britain and other

mag denies report of

Minister says Muslim militants behind Cairo bombing

"evolutionary process of the eventual transfer of power from outside the boundaries of Palesrine to within those boundaries.'

"The 'popular' struggle was now being fought from within and this was the signal we had all been waiting for," adds the

"Today the establishment of FIDA is another link in the chain of events that will lead to self-rule in the occupied territories. People have taken matters into their own hands and we in Tunis must struggle to keep up with the developments," said the advisor.

Many non-Fatch and non-DFLP Palestinian activists, however, believe that FIDA may turn out to be no more than an extension of the DFLP. "Many of the top members in FIDA are former DFLP people and that worries me," said a member of the Popular Front for the Libera-

tion of Palestine (PFLP). Leaders of the Tunis-hased DFLP wing have said that they would represent FIDA and its interests io PLO institutions.

'Representatives of the DFLP in the PLO Executive Committee, the Palestine Central Council (PCC) and the Palestine National Council (PNC) will represent the Palestinian Democratic Federation and its political positions and interests from now on," said Saleh Raafat, the Jordan-based representative of

organisations in Cairo Saturday

by fax and telephone to deny that

it had anything to do with the

They said Gama'a had caused

ting "tourism but not tourists,"

and it would not target innocent

people in a public place.

Diplomats and security sources said Gama'a might be breaking into semi-independent cells under

pressure from a government crackdown and the cafe bomb

might have been planted by a cell

that such an attack was possi-

target to be the Nile Valley Cof-

fee House, which overlooks cen-

tral Cairo's biggest square.

working on its own.

the Abed Rabbo faction of the

Some members of Fatch say that the launching of FIDA may be a "test" to measure the possible success of such a party. "I am sure Ahu Ammar gave his approval to this party in order to test the ground in the occupied territories," said one Fatch member who is based in Amman.

Some critics even go as far as to claim that the party is directly linked to Fatch. "The representative of the group in Tunis is Abed Rahbo's group and he is a close and 'dependent' ally of Arafat," said one member of Mr. Abed Rabbo's rival group — the Damascus-based DFLP wing led by Mr. Hawat-

One of the many goals that FIDA has in common with Fatch is its desire to offset the gains and support that the Islamie Resistance Movement Hamas has won among the Palestinian masses in the last two years.

"Our programme clearly states that we are the secular alternative to sectarian and religious politics," said a Gaza-hased member of the group, Amer Abu Amer.

Mr. Ahu Amer, 25, who hails from the slums of Gaza, says that "io Gaza the DFLP was never that strong. It was Fatch, the PFLP and some other groups and then it was Hamas and Islamic Jihad that had following in the street in

Mr. Musa said explosives ex-

perts established that the homb

TNT and had been placed under

contained two kilogrammes of

Security sources said all the

Egyptians injured in the attack

were under suspicion and they

and their families were being

caused confusion over the num-

They added that this had

Doctors at Kasr Al Aini hospit-

a in the bomb. But the source

They said the supposed fourth

was an Egypoan man who had

been removed from the hospital

There are a lot of people in the Gaza Strip who have not committed themselves to any particular political group, says Mr. Ahu Amer. Gaza, which is one of the most denselypopulated areas in the world, is

are strong there."

If FIDA picks op a strong following in Gaza — even 20 per cent — then the party will take off everywhere else," Mr. Abu Amer predicted.

nowever, "a real test for

FIDA, because the Islamists

FIDA programme calls for Israel's withdrawal from the territories it occupied in the 1967 war. East Jerusalem, where the party's headquarters is based, should be returned to Arah rule, says FIDA's agen-

Mr. Khoury says that recruiting activities in labour unions, professional associations. colleges, the Palestinian Women's Federation and prisons have been underway for

The ability of the group to finance itself through mem-bership fees and donations as well as its ability to maintain organisational independence from Tunis will decide much of its future success, West Bank

observers say.
"FIDA should take care to be truly independent in its. programme. If it is seen in the territories as another messenger from Tunis it will fail," said a cautious supporter of the group who is based in Ramal-lah.

### S. Arabia maintains quota for 1993 Haj

DUBAI (R) - Saudi Arabia said Monday qootas limiting the num-ber of Muslims visiting Mecca on the annual Haj, will remain in force this year.

The Ministry of Endowment

and Religious Affairs announced the quotas for the Haj, which this year will be at the end of May, in a statement quoted by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA).
"We hope all countries

respect the quota for pilgrims which has been set at one in a thousand of each country's population," the statement said.

Saudi Arabia, official guardian of Muslims' holiest shrines at Mecca and Medina, introduced the quotas in 1988 after more than 400 people, mostly Iranians, were killed in clashes with security forces who stopped them holding political rallies.

It said the quotas were introduced to relieve overcrowding at the pilgrimage sites that normally host np to two million pilgrims during the Haj, which lasts at least five days.

Iran rejected the quotas but allowed its pilgrims to come back in 1991 after a three-year boycott, The Sandi statement asked all Muslim countries to submit final lists of pilgrims before the end of the Holy month of Ramadan. which ends in the third week of

It advised pilgrims on travel, accommodation and health care arrangements and security measures for the Haj, - a must for every Muslim at least once in a The statemenr said Saodi ao-

thorities would deal harshly with anyone in possession of "pictures, books or political pamphlets or any other banned mate-

Pilgrims, it said, would not be allowed to take part in any poliocal gatherings or demonstrations or to chant political slogans,

### MOGADISHU (R) — Somali warlord Ahmad Omar Jess has started pulling his forces back from the outskirts of the southern port of Kismayu in compliance with an ultimatum from the U.S. military, a U.S. spokesman said Monday.

In another sign of detente in Kismayu, elders from Colonel Jess's faction and from that of his main rival, Mohammad Said Hersi, known as General Morgan, beld more than three hours of peace talks there oo Monday. U.S. Marine Colonel Fred Peck told reporters.

"Things are looking pretty positive for us at the moment in Kismayu," he added. Heavy fighting broke out in the town last week when forces loyal

to Gen. Morgan, advancing from the west, infiltrated some quarters held by Col. Jess. Kismayu remains under curfew.

Somalia's ceasefire committee will hold a day-long meeting Tuesday to examine violations a week after riots and gunbattles rocked the Horn of Africa country, the U.N. announced.

The ceasefire committee will

meet tomorrow, all 15 factions which signed the Addis Abaha ceasefire agreement last month are expected to attend." Faronk Mawlawi, U.N. spokesman in Somalia, told reporters.

He said the meeting — to be jointly chaired by U.N. forces deputy commander io Somalia Canadian Major-General James Cox and a U.S. commander, Colonel Peter Dott - would compile a report on last week's violence, the worst since the 23-nation U.N. force landed in December.

Col. Peck said the only disturbances Monday were some demonstrations and stone-throwing by supporters of Col. Jess and his ally in Mogadishu, Gen. Mohammad Farah Aideed.

Col. Jess and Gen. Aideed blamed the infiltration by Gen. Morgan's forces on the Americans, saying they were taking a softer line towards his militia than towards their own.

Bnt Gen. Morgan, a son-in-law example and give up some or all of deposed dictator Mohammad of his heavy weapons.
"We've waiting for a similar Siad Barre, pulled his forces back from Kismayu several days ago and handed some of his heavy weapons over to the U.S. army. Col. Peck said Col. Jess's forces were now on the move but it was not yet clear bow far north they had reached.

The U.S. ultimatum, delivered come was positive, he added. "They agreed to stop the fight-Suoday, said Mr. Jess should ing and to stop these demonstramove about 120 kilometres north tions. They agreed to meet again of Kismayu and assemble his tomorrow ... they want to set up their own security council," he "We don't see anyone moving around (in the Kismayu area).

An American Marine takes part in an arms search Sunday in a

southern area of the Somali capital, Mogadishu. The search for arms

was also continuing in the southern port city of Kismayu (AFP photo).

In the second meeting on Tuesother than Jess doing what we've day, the elders plan to discuss asked him to do," Col. Peck said, The United States hopes Col. forming a police force in Kismayo, he added. Jess will follow Gen. Morgan's

The Security Council would ensure that police officers chosen were reputable and represented a fair mix of the clans in the town. the second largest in Somalia.

"That's a very good develop-ment, to see the two factions ing," said Col. Peck.
The political talks in Kismayu were the first of substance bewere nearing some sort of an tween the two sides and the outaccord to get along together.".

## Disarray hits PJP leadership

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Saad, in a telephone interview with the Jordan Times, rejected this charge saying that although the results of the elections were not totally representative "they were at least 70 to 80 per cent successful" in representing the party cadre.

He said that he was careful to ask the 50-member central committee to elect a broad array of candidates. "If that was not completely covered then the ones who were not lucky this time can be active through the party and obviously influence its decisions," be said.

He said that after the mass

resignation of 34 members, there was more opportunity to create the needed blend of

Sources close to the party told the Jordan Times that the new executive committee tried in vain Sunday evening to win the support of Mr. Abu Odeh, who founded the party while in transition from Royal Court chief to U.N. ambassador. According to the sources, Mr. Abu Odeh told the committee members that while he had no objections to the success of some persons and the failure of others, be could not condone "democracy by majority" when it comes at the expense of the party founders' declared objective of creating a party

progressive cultural-political soci-"He told them that his conflict

gesture on the part of Jess and

we've heard it may be forthcom-

forces in cantonment areas.

with them was not over personalities but over the style of work and the impact of the results on the political substances of the party. one of the sources said, adding that Mr. Ahu Odeh had told the executive committee that he wanted to be distanced from the party and requested that he not be referred to as the "founding chairman" of the party.

Mr. Ahu Odeh, however, has not submitted his resignation from the party and is not expected to formally take such a step now.

But sources close to Mr. Abu Odeh's thinking said that he was distressed over the image that will be portrayed by the new leadership of the party which analysts have described as the "committee of village elders."

"The final make-up of the party now looks like it is a village council representing a city and a tribe," an analyst said, adding that this image is in total contradiction to the "liberal party that was supposed to open up to the world and understand its balance of forces."

Although there is unanimity among party members in their respect for the person of Mr. Abu Odeh and his reputation as a pragmatic politician, his physical absence from the Jordanian scene may have contributed to the

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

..... Aqaba (RJ)

.. Karachi, Dubai (RJ) ... Doba, Bahrain (RJ)

Toronto, Montreal (RJ) Frankfort, Vienna (RJ)

..... Bucharre (ME)

apparent vacuum in leadership and misunderstanding of the mes sage he wanted the party to carry.

This element, analysts and party members agree, may have contributed to the fragmentation thai has hit the party and this may be obvious from the sequence of the resignations in the party since the inception early last year. According to sources within the party the first bulk resignation came

with Mr. Ahu Odeh's move to

New York to assume his new pos!

and the next group's resignation came when Dr. Hamzeh was

appointed as temporary head of

the party. When Mr. Abu Odeh was appointed to the U.N. around 1. founding members left the part; and when Dr. Hamzeh war appointed another 10 to 12 left. a founding member said in ar interview. "Their message was

clear," he said. Apart from the leadership problem, the Progress and Justice Party's initial 32 founders apparently paid scant attention to the type of people they were recruiting as fellow founders and their commitment to the party's

philosophy. "We had a situation were people were hussed over to the party headquarters where they would recite the oath and then never come back to the party," a party insider said.

Dr. Hamzeh admits that enough attention was not paid to the political beliefs of new members and that this mistake contrihuted to the ensuing problems.

92:15 ..... Aden (R)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

### JORDAN TELEVISION

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### WEATHER

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Bulletin supplied by the Department of

It will be warm and partly cloudy and winds will be southeasterly light to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be

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### UAE assembly holds first public forum ABU DHABI (R) - Two members of the United Arab Emirates

tacted at least two other news organised and carried out the

relatively few casualties, in a chair in the cafe, but neither accordance with a policy of hit-

Mr. Musa said the authorities al where the victims were taken

received information some time said Saturday that four people

hie but they had not expected the said there were only three dead.

The information had included for questioning on Friday night

the names of those who planned, and returned later.

attack, he said.

questioned.

ber of dead.

(UAE) Federal Assembly attended the first of a series of "meet the people" meetings advertised as part of an attempt to give the public greater access to its leaders.

Citizens were also thin on the ground at the meeting beld before dawn Monday in a large tent in the centre of the UAE capital Ahu Dhabi.

Some 30 citizens, joined by a sprinkling of diplomats, journalists and former members of the Federal National Council (FNC), attended the meeting which opened after midnight because. organisers said, most citizens stay on unoil dawn in the Holy Month of Ramadan when Muslims fast during daylight hours. Seven asked questions which ranged from the application of religious law to how citizens could expect a wider role in

Members said the decision to hold public forums, the first of their kind to increase access to the government, was a bold step by the new FNC of 40 appointed representatives of the seven UAE emirates, which met on Feb. 6 after an 18-month break.

A recording of the friendly and largely uncontroversial two-hour debate is due to be broadcast by UAE television later in the week. Ir was not immediately clear if subsequent meetings would also be held in the middle of the night.

"For any majlis or parliament it is important to have a centre British weekly of having "close for ideas... so leaders don't sequester themselves behind closed links" with the Iranian regime. doors... unaware of the people's lives and needs." Rashid Al "It has given publicity...to some Tranian lies and fabrications." Mazroui, one of the two PNC members who attended, said in response to a question about the council's role.

### which would take Jordan to a JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

man 25. Aqaba 31. Humidity readings: Amman 26 per cent. Aqaba 44 per

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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**EMERGENCIES** 

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Fire Brigade	20177
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Public Security Department	63032
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Jabal Amman Maternity 612362
Malhas, J. Amman
Palestine. Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital
University Hospital845845
Al-Mussber Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdali 6661 27/37
Al-Ahli, Abdeli
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ZARQA:
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Zarqa National Hospital ... (09)900560
Ibn Sina Hospital ...... (09)986732
Al Hibra Modern Hospital ...... (09)99990
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#### FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Princess Haya Hospital ...

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oueen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should ziways be verified.

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) #5:30 ...... Jaksma, Kuala Lenspur (RJ)

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DEPARTURES

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| 136 / 600 | Grapefruit ..... Lemon ...... Marrow (large)



Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Tuesday calls at the Armed Forces Headquarters where he meets with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb to discuss issues of common interest to the Armed Forces (Army Moral Guidance Directorate photo)

#### **HOME NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### King cables Morocco, Bulgaria, Slovakia, S. Korea

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday sent a cable to King Hassan II of Morocco, congratulating him on the anniversary of his accession to the Throne, and wishing him continoed good health and happioess and the Moroccan people further progress and prosperity. The King sent a similar cable to the Bulgarian President congratulating him on his country's national day. In a third cable, King Hussem coogratulated the Slovakian President on his election and wished him cootinued good health and happioess and the Slovak people further progress and prosperity. King Hussein also sent a cable to the South Korean President congratulating him on the assumption of his duties and wishing him and his people every success and prosperity.

#### Crown Prince condoles Hiyassat family

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AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday delegated Balga Governor Eid Al Qatarneb to convey his condolences to the Hiyassat family over the death of Abdul Fattah Al Hiyassat, who served as secretary general of the Jordanian Writers Federation until his death last Thursday.

#### Prince Abduliah visits with Sharif Zeid

AMMAN (Petra) - His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussem Tuesday called at the Prime Ministry and met with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

#### Senate returns illegal acquisition of wealth law to House

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Upper House of Parliament Tuesday maintained its stand with regard to a draft law on the illegal acquisition of wealth and returned if to the Lower House. The Senate refused to endorse the draft law before several amendments had been approved.

### Tax office collects, over JD 9m in February

AMMAN (Petra) - Last month the Income Tax Department collected JD 9,300,51I compared with JD 4,525.020 in February 1992, according to the department's director general Maosour Haddadin. Mr. Haddadin said the department has collected JD 45,577,057 over the last two months. He tbanked the citizens for their encouraging response and called on tax payers, who have not yet filed their statements for the year 1992 to do so by the end of March to benefit from the 2 per cent discount.

### IDB to grant 10 loans worth over JD 2m

AMMAN (Petra) - The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) board of directors Tuesday approved 10 loans worth JD 2,414,000 to finance industrial projects. Six out of the ten loans will be used to support existing industries, producing photocopying paper, chewing gum, cotton clothing, lamps and electric distribution panels. The remaining four loans will be used to finance new projects costing JD 2,180,000. The new industries will produce aluminium shutters, chlorine, soda and its derivatives, underwear and raw material for the paint industry. These projects are set to create 163 new job opportunities.

### **Engineers host benefit Iftar**

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Engineers Association's (JEA) committee for supporting the Palestinian uprising will host an Iftar Wednesday to benefit the families of the Palestinians expelled by Israel to southern Lehanon in December. Committee Chairman Yasser Ghannam called on citizens to belp the committee in its endeavour by huying tickets to the Iftar. Mr. Ghannam said each ticket will be sold at JD 2. The Iftar will be held at the Professional Unions Complex in Shmeisani.

### Jarash-Amman road closed temporarily

JARASH (Petra) — The Jarash-Amman road is closed for traffic until further notice, according to Jarash District Governor Khalid Al Khreisha. The governor said the closure resulted from a landslide in a mountainous area where work is currently underway on the new highway linking Amman with Irbid. Mr. Khreisha said the landslide resulted in 40 metres of cracks and holes which make it impossible for motorists to use this road. The district governor called on the Jarash Public Security Department to han the use of this road and to fix warning signs alerting motorists not to use this road for their own safety.

### Poverty committee to look at minimum wage

AMMAN (J.T.) — A government appointed committee charged with conducting a study to determine the number of families living in poverty and absolute poverty should attempt to determine the minimum level of wages and raise the low wages of work-ers, Secretary General of the Ministry of Social Development Mohammad Sqour said.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, committee head Mohammad Sqour said fixing wages can encourage people

to take up various available jobs. Dr. Sqour was charged Saturday, with heading the committee that will base its study on the results of surveys conducted up to the eod of 1992.

The committee plans to hold daily meetings to finalise its work within a month, Dr. Sqour said.

### **Dentists** to launch education programme

AMMAN (Petra) - Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein, a two-day symposium on dental care and dental health education will begin on April 14 at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Participants will discuss 12 working papers on dental bealth, flouride and its uses, fillers and their uses, dental bealth education and the role of the media in promoting dental bealth aware-

Taking part in the symposium will be representatives of the Ministries of Health and Education, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and the regional centre for counselliog and esearch on dental health.

The symposiom is organised by the Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) on the occasion of the Arab Day for Mouth and Dental Health, which falls on March 9.

To mark this occasioo the JDA's education and information committee has prepared a dental health education programme, which will be implemented oo Saturday.

The five-day programme includes health lectures, symposia, and free deotal check-ups for school students, in cooperatioo with the Ministry of Education.

### Air France, partners offer new travel incentives.

AMMAN (J.T.) - Air France and its three European partner-airlines; Air Inter, CSA Czechoslovak Airlines, and Sabena have launched the Euro Flyer Pass, which they say will allow passengers the opportunity to see more of Europe for less money.

Air France has ownership stakes in all three of the smaller airlices. By combining their European route networks, the four airlines will be able to offer more than 100 stopover points in Europe.

An Air France passenger arriv-ing in Paris from Jordan, for example, can use the Euro Flyer Pass to go from Paris to Nice oo Air Ioter, from Nice to Rome on Air France, from Rome to Prague on CSA, Prague to Brussels on Sabena and then Brussels to Paris either on Air France or

From Paris the passenger can return to Ammar

In Jordan the Euro Flyer Pass is also available in coojunction with Royal Jordanian flight Amman-Paris-Amman.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### **EXHIBITIONS**

Exhibition of paintings by four Arab artists from the United States — Ghada Jamai, Helen Khal, Suha Noursi and Afaf Zurayk — at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery in

Jahal Amman, between the First and Second Circles (10 a.m.- 4 p.m.)

- Poster exhibition entitled "The British Film Makers of the 80s" at the British Council.
- $\Rightarrow$  Islamic book exhibition at the Islamic Centre in Zarga.

### FILM

☆ British film entitled "Charing Cross Road" at the British Council - 7 p.m.

### Iraqis stage sleep-in at UNHCR offices, demand resettlement

By Sausan Ghosheh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Nineteen Iraqi refugees, including five children, pent Monday night at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), demanding their resettlement in any country that would accept them.

These Iraqis came to Jordan on

ment to other countries because

forged passports and applied for political asylum, claiming to be part of the Iraqi opposition. The UNHCR has recognised them as refugees and submitted an application for their resettle-

Jordan does not accept refugees. Since the Iraqis' arrival in Jordan, the UNHCR has provided the refugees with a document that allows them to remain in Jordan until another country accepts them. The UNHCR has also provided them with an allowance, but the Iraqis claim that the UNHCR is discriminatory, giving non-Iraqis more money than Ira-

is allocated according to the num-ber of individuals in a family. The protesters have also accused the UNHCR of being responsible for their loog stay in

cis. UNHCR Protection Officer

Fouzi Abed Al Majeed denied

this charge saying that the money

Jordan. One refugee, who preferred to remaio anonymous, said the UNHCR head in Jordan has described their case as "unimportant" and therefore, the other countries see no oeed to accept

Dr. Abed Al Majeed said the UNHCR cannot describe any case it accepts as unimportant. He added that the acceptance by other countries of the refugees benefits the UNHCR because as long as the refugees are in Jordan the UNHCR is responsible for their food, shelter and actions. He explained that their delay is because the countries that take in

The act that triggered this protest was the toughening up of enforcement of the Jordanian Residency and Aliens Law, which the protesters claim led to their

refugees perceive their cases as

The UNHCR bas offered them hotel accommodations, but the refugees refused, explaining that it is not safe to stay in hotels. They believe by staying in the UNHCR boilding they will pressure U.N. officials to facilitate their travel arrangements.

Dr. Abed Al Majeed said the UNHCR is powerless in this are-na. All they can do is help the refugees while they are still in Jordan. He added that they are trying to persuade the protestors to go to hotels) and wait until they receive an acceptance for resettiement.

He also said that this act of protest will harm the refugees rather than help them, labelling them as trouble makers. The refugees, he explained,

should keep a low profile, in order to speed up the process of

## New anti-Zionism, racism group opens door to all Jordanians

By Sana Atiyeh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Society for Combating Zionism and Racism Tuesday opened its doors for all Jordanians to join the society in efforts to "educate the people on the dangers and threats of Zionism and to defend our culture from this danger," Lower House Deputy Laith Shbeilat said.

The Islamist deputy and president of the newly-formed society announced in a press conference that the society aimed at distributing throughout the Kiogdom well-researched published information on the dangers of Zionist thinking and its program-

Speaking to reporters from his parliamentary office, Mr. Shbeilat said the work of the society, registered at the Ministry of Culture io August 1992, focused oo promoting, translating and providing scientific studies and books, as well as holding seminars, "uot speeches," on the issue of Zionism.

"Our job is to try to close the cultural gap that has emerged in the last two decades regarding public knowledge on the true Zionist dangers and threats," Mr. Shbeilat said. "We only want to reveal what the Zionist programme is and how it works; to reveal how and where Zionism has infiltrated; and to know where the enemy is, hoping to fend off its infiltration into our culture. This is a cultural hattle."

Mr. Shbeilat was speaking in his first press cooference since his release from prison io November

1992. He, along with Deputy Yacoub Qarrash, was sentenced by the State Security Court to twenty years at bard labour after a five-week public trial in which he was convicted of belonging to an illegal armed group, "Sbabab Al Nafeer Al Islami," which allegedly aimed to topple the regime.

Mr. Shbeilat, who maintained his innocence throughout the trial and accused the court and prosecution of fabricating the seven charges against him, was released after His Majesty King Hussein issued a general amnesty on Nov. 12, two days after the seotencing.

The deputy said the society expected to raise its funds from members and donations. He welcomed participation of people from all walks of life who are convinced that Zionism was indeed threatening the Arah and Islamic entity and culture, but he insisted that no one political ideology or person would have any unilateral control over the

The deputy explained that specialised committees would be set up to research different fields of Zionism. such as Zionist history. Zionism and racism, infiltration of Zionism in the new world order, and so on.

Describing the society as a 'think-tank for everybody's use," Mr. Shbeilat added that the group's work was limited to providing information on Zionism to whoever wanted it, "including the government.'

The people, institutions, political parties or the government

#### Laith Shbeilat

responsible for their decisions," Mr. Shbeilat stressed, adding that political activity was not part of the society's objectives.

He added that with the ongoing peace process, where normali saion of relations between the Arabs and Israel may be imminent in a settlement, "we should be ready to fend off the danger of

Zionist cultural invasion." Mohammad Nahbas, treasurer of the society, explained that although the group does not permit political recruitment, the 25 founders hope that the information provided by the society could change the political trends of those who are indifferent to the

dangers of Zionism. Mr. Shbeilat said the group's priority at this time was to expand its membership to include thinkers and academicians who would actively participate in the work, "and would see the results of the work take shape in certain pro-

## Local company wins export order to U.S. American officials call it a major breakthrough

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

SAHAB INDUSTRIAL CITY — A Jordanian company bas woo export orders for biscuits worth \$750,000 to the U.S. in what is described by American officials as a major breakthrough in foreign markets for Jordanian industries prodocing consumer pro-

The orders, which are expected to be filled beginning July this year; were made possible after officials of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) helped the company meet some of the stringent quality control measures imposed by U.S. government agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), AID offi-

cials said. United Coofectionery and Food Company Limited, which has its plants in this industrial area southeast of Amman, secured the order for their "butter cookies" against stiff competition from Danish companies, said George Khoury of the company.

According to Donald Reese, director of the Office of Trade, Investment and Production at the USAID office in Amman, "this is the first step; the company bas a poteotial market worth \$3 million in the American market." The help USAID extended to

the company, he said, came in line with the efforts the agency is exerting to help Jordan earn foreign exchange through exports.
With proper assistance, technical and otherwise, Jordan and Jordanians have the potential to develop export markets for its products AID officials said, adding that agricultural produce as well as marble were among the items that Jordan coold successfully sell abroad.

In addition to helping Jordanian companies identify foreign markets and improve the quality of products to meet international standards, the USAID also extends assistance in the form of **Community Import Programmes** (CIP) under which importers are given easy credit terms.

Furthermore, the agency also

Jordan's Industrial Engineering Department to produce skilled personnel who could help develop and run industrial units. In addition, USAID "main-

Mr. Reese told the Jordan Times.

tains a constant dialogue with the government to ease hureancracy and offer incentives to exporters.

The dollar value of the order for "butter cookies" may be low, but "what is important is the fact that a Jordanian company has won export orders for a consumer product to the U.S.," said Bastian B. Schouten, deputy director of USAID Jordan.

The company, which also prodoces concentrated beverages and already exports to markets in the Gulf states, registered a total sales turnover of about \$1.5 milbon in 1992, Mr. Khoury said. The company benefited from a \$30,000 facility offered to it under

ramme and is now seeking \$150,000 under the same programme to import machinery, Mr. Schouten said. U.S. Ambassador Roger Harrison, Mr. Schouten and other

AID's Commodity Import Prog-

senior AID officials Tuesday visited the Sahab plant. The ambassador pledged to extend all possible assistance to the company to further develop its

production line and expand its According to AID officials, the government should cut down on bureaucracy and offer further incentives to help Jordanian indus-

tries producing consumer pro-

ducts to compete successfully

abroad. "The producers should be able to buy imported ingredients at international prices," said Mr. Schouteo, referring to customs duties levied in Jordan.

#### U.S. Ambassador Roge Harrison Tuesday visits a confectionary in Sahab which recently won an export order to the U.S. (Photo by Nasser Mousa)

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### 2 burglars arrested in Jarash

AMMAN (Petra) - Two men, suspected of committing several burglaries, were arrested on Feb. 17 by the Irbid police in Jerash, according to a Public Security Department (PSD) statement here Tuesday.

Withholding the identities of the two suspects, the PSD statement said the men allegedly lived in one of the caves in Wadi Kufr Khal near Jerash and local inhabitants became suspicious of their movements.

The Jerash police placed the two men under constant surveillance before storming their cave on Feb. 17 and arresting them, the statement said. It said the suspects admitted to committing the thefts and other crimes in complicity with two other persons in the Amman and Zarqa regions.

According to the PSD statement, the two men knock at the door of a targetted home and if answered, they would claim they were looking for homes to rent; but, if there was no answer they woold break into the home.

The police said the suspects used to steal electric appliances and sell them in Amman where buyers would ask no questions. The PSD added that the two

men also worked with a local

bis spinal cord and died immediately, according to the SOUTCE.

line with usual police procedures. Initial reports after the discovery of the body in Shmeisani were that it was the latest victim in a series of mysterious attacks which started in mid-September.

jeweller peddling fake jewellery. of a 25-year-old man was found

# 2nd strangled victim found to go up in Jordan

killings.

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A 21-year-old youth was reported to have killed himself leaping from a third floor apartment in what appeared to be a sex-related incident, sources

said Tuesday.

The youth, identified by his initials as M.R., a graduate from an intermediate college, is believed to have chosen either to take his chances of escape or commit suicide after he was caught io a "compromising" situation with a married woman, the sources said.

The young man was working at an optician's, according to the SOUTCES.

"Apparently the youth had an affair with a married woman," said one source. "He was inside the apartment of the woman when the husband knocked on the door shortly after Iftar Monday," said the source. "Obviously he had no choice but to jump from the third floor if be were to escape from the husband."

The yooth jumped and broke . The identes of the woman and

her husband were withheld, in

In another incident, the body

stuffed in a black bag near the cigarette factory in Ras Al 'Ain,

reports said. The man, identified as A.A. was strangled to death hy a wire, according to the reports.

No further details were im-

mediately available, except that the murder appeared to have been committed elsewhere and the body dumped in Ras Al 'Ain. It was the second body found in similar circumstances in three days. But security sources ruled

out any link between the two

On Saturday, police found the body of Abdul Hameed Salman, 30, in a back street of Baqaa camp northwest of Amman. The hands and legs of the victim, who was strangled to

death, were bound, and the body

was wrapped in a black plastic

The victim was said to have been a member of the bardline Palestinian factioo, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP-GC) based in Damascus. But police sources said the murder did not appear to have

been politically motivated. "All indications are that a personal feud could have been the reason for the killing," said one source. "There is no evidence whatsoever to indicate any political motivation."

"It is too early, however, to make any judgements," the source said, adding that no arrests were made until Monday evening but that iovestigations were continuing.

# Youth kills himself | 5 new industrial cities

AMMAN (J.T.) - Motivated by extremely good results at the two existing industrial cities in Jordan, the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) plans 10 build five additional industrial cities in different parts of the country, according to JIEC Director General Fayez

Suheimat. More industrial cities means attracting more investors from Arah and foreign countries and increasing industrial exports, Mr. Suheimat said in an interview with Agence France Presse

The two active industrial cities are Sahab, established in 1984, 25 kilometres south-east of Amman and Al Hassan Industrial City, established in 1991 in Irbid, 88 kilometres north of Amman.

According to Mr. Suheimat, the two schemes succeeded in attracting 304 small to large businesses which produce plastics, chemical and electrical products and carpets.

"He estimated that by the end of 1992 investments in both cities were valued at \$310 millioo and employees nombered nearly

Mr. Suheimat explained that the JIEC offers tempting conditions to investors because it lays down the infrastructure, carries out the civil works and offers investors all the facilities available under the Jordanian Encouragement of Investments

He added that in each industrial city the ITEC opens the door campaign.

ance companies, post offices, restaurants, banks and other essen-

tial services.

The JIEC normally exempts new companies from income taxfor the first two years of operations and marketing products, and does not impose any municipal and land taxes on these industrial projects. By the end of 1992, the Sahab

scheme had 265 small, medium and large factories, including 10 from Arah countries and 15 with joint capital with foreign inves-According to Mr. Snheimat, 60

per cent of these industries' production is exported to Arah countries, Europe and the United States, earning the Kingdom badly needed foreign currency. Work on the five new schemes

is expected to start in early 1994. Meanwhile, Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Tuesday praised the role of industrial sector in supporting Jordan's development march.

In a meeting with industrial sector representatives in Sahab Industrial city, Princess Basma said the industrial sector has always risen to the level of responsibility and has deserved the confidence of the people at all times. The Princess also reviewed the

activities of the charity campaign, lannched last week to assist the poor and the needy during the Holy Month of Ramadan.

Industrialists voiced appreciation for the objectives of the

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### Curing the problem

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin's response to the killing of two Israelis and the wounding of nine others in Tel Aviv Monday by a Gazan man is stupid. He must realise by now that placing Gaza under. curfew or resorting to his old iron-fist policy will not put an end to the shedding of both Palestinian and Israeli blood. The cycle of violence and counterviolence will only be enhanced and deepened by Israel's resort to collective punishment. Casualties on both sides are a direct result of Israel's continued occupation of Palestinian lands and its systematic violations of the human rights of the Palestinian people. No-one would take comfort from the fact that innocent civilians are being killed. It is against Arab and Islamic norms to shed the blood of civilians.

Yet an end to the cycle of violence cannot be attained witbout the achievement of a just and permanent peace in the area. This much Mr. Rabin conceded immediately after the stabbing when he told his country that "only peace talks could provide a permanent" solution.

"But in the end," Rabin told Israel Radio, "without coming to a political solution there can be no effective answer to the problem."

One cannot agree more with Rabin on his diagnosis of the situation and his prescription for its resolution. What is puzzling however is his decision to seal off the entire Gaza Strip indefinitely as a retaliatory measure against the people of Gaza for Monday's attack. This arbitrary collective punishment against all Gazans has been taken in spite of the admission that the Palestinian attacker had acted alone. "According to the details we have." the deputy police chief in Tel Aviv told Israel Radio, "he (the attacker) acted alone when he planned to attack Jews as a result of disappointment that he had not found work."

True Islamic Jihad in Damascus sought "credit" for the attack but this attempt to associate the Islamic movement with the stabbing cannot be taken as reasonable or just grounds to mete out collective punishment against all the citizens of the Gaza Strip. Israel bas already committed a gross injustice when it banished more than 400 Palestinians last December in the wake of the kidnapping and killing of an Israeli soldier. The immediate consequence of that grave violation of human rights and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 was the suspension of the peace process. Till this point in time, the parties to the Arab-Israeli bilateral and multilateral peace talks have yet to find an equitable solution to the problem created by that Israeli over-reaction. By closing off the occupied Gaza Strip, Israel in effect is falling back to the same tactic of mass punishment that threatens to exacerbate the situation in the occupied territories and hring it closer than ever to the boiling point.

Since Rabin knows well the genesis of the cycle of violence in his country as well as in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, he will do his people as well as the Palestinian people a great deal of justice if he not only expedites the resumption of the peace negotiations but also bring them to swift resolution.

### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

A decision by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to go back on his pledges to repatriate the expellees and to withdraw Israeli troops from the Golan show clearly that the U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to the region in the past month did a great deal of harm to the peace process, said Sawt Al Shaab daily. The paper said that Mr. Rabin retreated from previously announced positions in the wake of Mr. Christopher's visit. Non-abidance by the U.N. resolutions means that Israel does not respect resolutions 242 and 33g in addition to 799 and means also that the U.S. is continuing its encouragement to the Israelis, enabling them to impede the peace process with the Arabs, the paper said. The paper also said that Mr. Christopher's recent visit to the region aimed at dividing the Arab parties and weakening their positions, giving rise 10 further feelings of desperation, which normally leads to violence. Egypt's most recent attempt to bring about a change in the Israeli position, added the daily, ended up in total failure and further weakened the Arabs and strengthened the Israeli position.

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday placed the blame for the non-ending cycle of violence in the Middle East on the Israeli government, which, it said, had chosen the path of terrorism and intimidation to deal with the Palestinians. Violence can only beget violence and the Israelis should realise that they should expect a strong reaction from the Arabs, whose lands are usurped and whose men and women are being killed or tortured or banished from their homeland, said the daily. Israel has sown the seeds of violence and counter violence, which the occupied Arab lands are now witnessing, said the paper which was referring to the killing of two Israelis by an Arab in Tel Aviv Monday. The paper said by killing innocent Palestinians and demolishing their homes, Israel bas initiated the cycle of violence, which can only end with the termination of occupation. Israel can start the peace process by implementing U.N. Security Council Resolution 799 and repatriating the expelled Palestinians, followed by implementation of resolutions 242 and 338, the paper demanded. It said that unless the Israeli leaders abandon their present policy of aggression and violence, they are bound to face counter violence on the part of the Palestinian Arabs. Only through peace can the Israelis and the Arabs be saved from the current cycle of horror and desperation, cantinued the daily.

Economic Forum

By Dr. Abdallah Malki

# Growth and external imbalances

THE REAL 12% growth rate of Jordan's gross domestic product (GDP) in 1992 was a celebrated achievement by all standards despite its tentative nature. Three months after nuveiling this rate, observers and analysts expect the release of a more refined ratio in the light of more recent data, especially with regard to

Very skillfully, the authorides used the outstanding growth performance as a smoke cover for the appalling performance of imports, which jumped by a staggering rate of around 30% in

The GDP growth rate, the rise in the public domestic revenues and the very low growth rate of prices (4%), ignited some sort of euphoria. Though such euphoria is justified to a certain degree and in a certain sense, the message of today's column is to warn against the turning of this passing euphoria into permanent complacency. The theme here is that the growth of the economy is no guarantee against external imbalances, such as the trade deficit, the current and capital account deficits and the basic balance of payments deficit.

External imbalances are the other side of our external debt

problem, which forced us to go, hat in hand, to the Internacional Monetary Fund (IMF) and to draft the economic adjustment

Economic growth can certainly contribute to a healthier external balance but that is not a must. It does so through higher levels of exports (of goods and services) and through attracting investment. (Easier access to loans is another contribution but it is not an advantage).

But economic growth can also create mounting demand for

imports. Besides, any erroneous policies may trigger capital flight. Creditor countries are not necessarily those which outgrew debter ones. Too much depends on the quality of econor growth. Such growth necessarily means higher incomes which in turn mean bigher demand (for both consumption and capital formation purposes, but significantly for the former).

To the extent that the ongoing economic policy directs the extra demand more to domestic production, growth will improve the external balance. An export boom will enhance growth but will be

thwarted by surging imports.

As for the specific case of Jordan, the historical experience and evidence are very indicative and decisive. Our economy posted the best growth rates during the seventies and early eighties. Nevertheless, it was in this particular period that we accumulated our external debt, which bad exploded into the external debt. problem of 1988 and sent us rallying for the help of the IMF.

No external debt can accumulate without over-importing.

Excessive levels of imports occur mainly during elevated levels of income brought about by enhanced economic growth, especially with an open-door import policy. The steep rise in our GDP and the phenomenal jump in our imports in 1992 are a typical and

telling, but also agonising, example of that.

Again, economic growth is not a guarantee for rectifying our external balances nor is it an alternative to prudent commercial policy and the rationalisation of imports.

Economic growth makes life easier in many fields and facilitates the conduction of successful economic policies but does not necessarily put out the fire of external debt. Nor does it prevent



#### By Mark Power Stevens

THE ISSUE which lies at the very heart of the Middle East peace talks is Israel's control and settlement of Palestinian land. Despite Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's promises to his electorale and to the former U.S. administration, he has not "frozen" settlement, nor restricted it to the completion of building starts inherited from the previous Israeli government. Settlement building, the continued development of an infrastructure to serve the settlements, and the fact that over 65 per cent of the land of the occupied territories is closed to the Palestinian populaoon, are all still a reality.

On-the-ground, there is little to distinguish between the Likud and Labour governments. Politically, Mr. Rabin, whilst attempting to obfuscate the issue through his re-definition of the settlements into "security" and "political" categories, has nevertheless made his intentions quite clear. At best, he intends to relinquisb "some" land for peace, not "the" land, on the basis of what he contends are "security concerns" and the "irreversible" established presence of a sizeable Jewish population. Although the pursuance of "Greater Israel" appears not to be Mr. Rabin's plan, he does not intend to freeze settlement activity or return the millions of dunums of Palestinians' land taken and built on since 1967. The issue which concerns us here is, firstly, what is happening under Mr. Rabin today? And, secondly, to what extent is it reversible?

Mr. Rabin proposes to keep the "51 security settlements," which are in the Jordan Valley and along the "eastern slopes of 'the Judea and Samaria hills," which constitute 30,000 of the 110,000 settlers outside of the Jerusalem area. He also totally rejects any talk of relinquishing control of Jerusalem, "the soul and the heart of the Jewish people and the state of Israel." or its vicinity," which includes a further 150,000 settlers and together with the "security settlements" accounts for well over 50 per cent of the land of the West Bank. Mr. Rabin's policy may constitute a rejection of Ariel Sharon's efforts to settle Jews among Palestinian population centres,

but it essentially entails a return to the "cantonisation" plans of earlier Israeli governments, and specifically the Allon plan of 1967. The much publicised "settlement freeze" m reality meant only freezing 7,000 units whilst some 13,000 were completed. It was a calculated ploy to win the American loan guarantees, and to divert U.S. policy from its stated principles, and it was suc-

cessful. In addition, there is ample evidence of continued settlement activity over-and-above Mr. guarantees with few real restric-

## A roadblock to peace

Rabin's supposed self-imposed limits. In the settlement of Beit Eyrc, which is in neither the Jordan Valley nor the vicinity of Jerusalem where "security" settlements are located, 300 new bomes are under construction, and they are all "legitimate".

The director of Beit Eyre's planning committee said the settlement is defined by the government as "a border correction community," indicating it bas special status because of its close proximity to the Green Line. In the settlement of Ariel, construcoon is going ahead on 1,800 buildings after contractors won permission to "unfreeze" hundreds of units. A real-estate agent in Ariel's information and preparation centre claims that Ariel's population will be approaching 20,000 within a year and will be too large to freeze.

At the end of 1992, Peace Now in its "Settlement Watch" report stated that bulldozers were clearing new land at Ofra settlement near the West Bank town of Ramallah, amongst other places. The group also quoted Israeli government statistics that 24,000 units were to he built in 1992/93, including 12,500 in "Greater Jerusalem". And, in another report, it was admitted by the mayor of Jerusalem's spokeswoman that the Rabin government had just agreed to the appropriation of 200 acres of Palestinian land in East Jerusalem for the construction of a new Jewish neighbourhood.

Further, according to Peace Now, there is more construction per person going on in the Jewish settlements than in the Palestinian areas, the Israeli authorides cononue to allocate some 65 cubic metres of water per person more to Jewish settlers than to Palestinians, confinues to make up to 13 omes more water available for Jewish agriculture than for Palestinian, and continues to allocate 96.5 agorots of every shekel reaching the occupied territories

to the Jewish settlers. The misleading nature of Labour's "compromise" proposals compared to the absoluteness of Likud's position, may actually constitute a greater threat to Palestinian interests in that they will placate international opinion. particularly the U.S. administration, and allow the new Israeli government to pursue its objectives without censure and with the help of massive financial aid

and guarantees. In granting the \$10 billion loan

tions on Mr. Rabin, the Bush administration effectively shifted U.S. policy from its "settlementsare-an-obstacle-to-peace" posi-tion, to advocating a Palestinian compromise to meet Mr. Rabin's "concessions." This essentially aligned U.S. policy with Israel's disingenuous assertions that only it is "risking" anything through compromise, and that only it is doing the "giving," whilst Palesti-nians have "nothing to lose" and

to Israel's proposals. In reality, the amount of land and resources a Palestinian compromise along these lines would entail giving up makes it incon-ceivable that the Palestinians. could ever come close to meeting Israel's posicion.

only stand to gain from agreeing

Through the continuation of establishing "facts-on-the-ground," Mr. Rabin likely perceives that he is strengthening Israel's assertion that the extent of the Jewish presence in the occupied territories necessitates the recognition by the Palesti-nians of the settlers right to remain in place. But recently, some political forces in Israel, such as Peace Now, have started campaign to reveal the true extent of Jewish settlement in the occupied territories in an attempt to pressure the Israeli government to forward a more realistic solution. They point out that whilst the government tries to make out that the extent of Jewish settlement is irreversible, the reality is that "the Jewish settlements are in fact small, and the majority of them (107 out of 144 excluding East Jerusalem) have a population of less than 500; furthermore, 27 Jewish settlements bave a population of less than 100 settlers."

Peace Now claims the Palestinians represent 94 per cent of the population of the occupied territories, and the settlers a tiny six per cent minority. They maintain that despite the closing off of over 65 per cent of the land of the occupied territories, the settlements themselves represent a tiny percentage of the land, and these facts taken together mean the situación is reversible.

This is reinforced by the fact that Peace Now estimates over 60 per cent of the Jewish population moved to the settlements out of economic necessity, not for ideological reasons, and will move back again if the Israeli government creates the right economic incentives.

Though it should be stressed

that this position excludes any consideration of the status of Jerusalem, and the extensive and ceaseless drive to Judaise the city which continues to be central to the concerns of all Arab parties to

the negotiations.

It is the control of the land which is at the heart of the dispute; without giving the Palestinian people control of their land, Israel is offering them that in the absence of a forced agreement there is no chance of Israel advancing a solution which would give the Palestinians anything close to sovereignty over even the less than one-third of historic Palestine, which the West Bank and Gaza represent.

The U.S. has shown no inclination to apply the sort of pressure on Israel which is necessary. On the contrary, since the election of Mr. Rabin and Labour in Israel, the U.S. and Israeli posicions appear to have once again moved into barmony, and the only pressure is likely to be on the Palestinians to accept less than their minimum demands.

The risks inherent in the Palestinians' willingness to con-tinue negotiating without securing any new binding guarantees regarding the future status of, their land, including Jerusalem; are very clear. The Palestinians' perseverance with the peace process under these conditions is in itself a massive concession and an indication as to the desperate nature of the Palestinians' desire

Those calling for an active U.S. involvement in the negotiations need to be aware that the factors which would likely determine U.S. policy will not necessarily be justice" or "legitimacy," as they invariably and sadly are not in the real world of international rela-

Rather, the determining factors will likely be the regional balance of power and strategic and political interest; and the Palestinian case, with the fullbacking of the other Arab parties, will have to be made very strongly in these terms. The use of the evidence advanced by Peace Now regarding the minimal Jewish presence in the occupied territories is one tactic which can be employed to discredit the Israeli position; reiterating the point that, ultimately, security comes through peace is another.

The road to peace will open up only once there exists a political will for peace, and for all that peace entails, in Israel. There needs to be an Israeli perception of the pollocal and strategic necessity for peace and the benefits it will bring to Israel. Ultimately, if Israel decides there will be peace, then there will be. If it decides there will be an end to settlement and a return of Palestinians' land, then there will be.

The writer is a British national who resides in Jordan.

## Kuwait parliament

# 'Heading for self-destruction'

By Leslie Plommer

short of a cliffhanger. Quesnonfigures for a grilling at commit-tees of inquiry — the new parlia-ment, only five months into its four-year term, has the country in a state of suspense. Can this assembly, Kuwaitis wonder, possibly last?

For the moment, yes. writer: "This parliament has a superpower behind it." More important, it has yet to lose public support or seriously alienate the ruling Al Sabah family.

But it cannot take these factors for granted. The public becomes uneasy at imbalances and ex-tremes; the Sabah must bave known they had much popular backing when in 1986 they disably the country's most influendemocracy if it destabilises the Sabah".

Some, including Sulaiman Mutawa, the former planning minister, predict that the assembly will back off.

Some believe that if parliamentary exuberance turns into an outright clash, the Sabah might instead dissolve and reconstitute the appointed cabinet which they dominate. Others, like Dr. Naqeeb, see the assembly "heading for political self-destruct."

All the main issues parliament is exploring are contentious. It is investigating what happened to 17 billion in Kuwaiti investments in Spain, a financial scandal in the state oil-tanker company, the reasons for the state's instant collapse during the Iraqi invasion, and the non-payment of massive debts to the nation's

It is also confronted with the spectre of a contraction in one of spectre of a contraction in one of the world's most all-embracing will want its representatives to welfare states, now in deficit.

The merchants, the middle class, the new middle class everyone wants to increase his share of a shrinking cake. It's hard to take away benefits once guidelines. people are used to them. If the political system doesn't settle, all these issues are moving to con-frontation," Dr. Naqeeb warns.

If that confrontation is averted, one of the reasons will be that the Sabah are responding to the public mood, and the message of the

election, by pursuing what is being described as a "cabinet KUWAITI politics are nothing policy of appeasement" with parliament. So much so, indeed, that lng, criticising, summoning public the chief criticism of ministers at present is that they are not setting out a strong programme for parliamentary consideration.

The family has also put together a cabinet that includes six MPs - more than ever before. This concession is having the effect of linking the executive better to parliament, while tam-"Knwait's democracy is vital in this region," says a Near Eastern ing some erstwhile opposition members who now bold port-

The 60-man assembly is made up of 10 Sabah appointees and 50 elected members, chosen by the 81,400 male voters aged over 21 who bail from the 650,000 "firstclass" citizens who can trace their family origins back to the 1920s. Of these MPs, about 35 are

seen as roughly in the categories solved an assembly that homed in hard on certain family ministers. And Khaldoun Al Naqeeb, probably the country's most influenopposition not necessarily being bent on defeating the government tial sociologist, argues that "the United States will never forces and alliances being prone to change.

Even so, this election result is reported to have startled the ruling family, which is why it is eeping its collective head down.
One Western diplomat notes that the potendal for Sabah coalitions in the assembly - with some of the 15 supporters of Sumi Islamic groups, for instance is an argument against those

who foresee Armageddon. What bappens next? If the system is to be preserved, compromise both from the cabinet and assembly.

If the parliamentary inquiries prove impropriety, MPs will have to decide how far to press retribution, and the Sabah will have to decide whether to sacrifice some among them.

The public wants answers, but not violent vendettas. When it tires of inquiries - "We have become experts at committees," concentrate more on looking ahead with constructive legislation tackling root problems and formalising foreign-investment

Mr. Mutawa believes the system will survive: "Whatever our shortcomings — and I have never been backward in pointing them out - in the context of the region's political development we are still streets ahead." —

The Guardian

### One year into war,

## Bosnians eager for peace

By Laurinda Keys The Associated Press

SARAJEVO - After nearly a vear of war and recent strategic

They seem to be counting on the United States and the United Nations to win poliocally what they cannot win on the battle-

Government leaders feel U.S. involvement in Bosnia, both through airdrops and in talks, is a sign of world recognition of their independent state. Their message now is that's what they wanted all along, and the rest is details. Yet with rebel Serbs in control

of 70 per cent of Bosnia, it is not clear wbether agreement on the details — including boundaries for dividing the nation into provinces - can be reached. And it is far from certain whether Washington will be as deeply involved as the government ex-

"There are all kinds of pressures on us," acknowledged Ejup strategic gains.
Ganic, a member of the Bosnian Instead, many government presidency. "We want to finish

For the government, finishing a war that has killed at least 18,000 and forced millions from their homes no longer seems to mean regaining the land seized by Serb

The government claimed in a recent statement that "after one year of war, nobody is the military winner and nobody is a military loser."

After Geneva peace talks broke down a month ago, President Alija Izetbegovie declared

The government now is not addressing the issue directly, bargaining. That is a striking change in emphasis.

The government also wants rebel Serb tanks, cannon and rockets under tight U.N. control. That could be a recipe for a cease fire, but not necessarily for a political solution.

In neighbouring Croaoa, Serb arms were placed under U.N. control but no steps were taken to deal with the one third of Croatia losses near Sarajevo, Bosnia's that remained in Serb bands. A Muslim leaders appear eager for year-long truce broke down in peace.

year-long truce broke down in January after the government launched an offensive to regain

the land. The Bosnian military, which has opposed any concessions and demanded a unified Bosnia, apparently agrees with the government's softer approach.

Army second-in-command Jovan Divjak said in an interview he expected the fighting to be over by May, even if the political problems remain.

Mr. Divjak acknowledged a terrible loss of life - but gave no numbers — when Serbs pushed his troops back in Sarajevo's western suburbs. Serbs gained about 700 metres of territory, but haven't moved in to occupy it.

They apparently don't need to. They dealt government forces a psychological blow and positioned themselves for further

officials bave latched onto U.S. this war. We don't want our airdrops and involvement in children and grandchildren to negotiadons through President fight it over and over again to Bill Clinton's appointment of a special envoy as a sign that the world is on their side.

They also have taken comfort from the U.N. Security Council decision to establish a war crimes tribunal to try those accused of atrocities in former Yugoslavia.
"The Americans will be re-

sponsible ... for negotiations in which they take part," said Mr. Ganic.

U.S. officials may differ. "We're certainly not going to take over the negotiations," U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christhe would not agree to any peace opher said Thursday. "We regard plan that would bar Muslim vic- our role as bringing our good tims of Serb "ethnic cleansing" offices to bear, playing a con-campaigns from returning to their structive role, but we will not necessarily be at the table."

But while Bosnian Serb leader apparently leaving some room for sounded a moderate tone, the Radovan Karadzic recently has key issue for him remains the provincial boundaries.

Mr. Karadzic needs a corridor across northern Bosnian to the Serb-held town of Banja Luka to keep Serb held areas connected and supplied from Serbia, the dominant republic in Yugoslavia.

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severe headache. Hamas would prolong discussions to no end and the current decision-making system would be thrown into total disarray," said a PLO official speaking on condition of anonymity from Tunis.

PLO officials acknowledge that the PLO would like to have Hamas join its fold before a final settlement is reached with the Israelis. "This is necessary so that it will be binding on all parties," said one Palestinian analyst in

Hamas, however, may be trying to avoid precisely that. "A ew months back Hamas was making serious efforts to enter the PNC. Now the issue is on the back burner," said a Palestinian analyst close to Hamas. "Now the political strategy of Hamas is to stay outside of the peace pro-

"If it fails, then they will say that their predictions had been correct and if there is peace they will not be held responsible for the concessions that the PLO made to Israel," said the analyst.

"In other words the Hamas strategy at this stage is to have the best of both worlds," he said.

### Jordan surprised by U.S. advisory

(Continued from page 1)

by the Jordan Times Tuesday . ... were also puzzied by the warning. "I never feel threatened in Jordan. I didn't in the past and I don't now," said an American resident of Amman who asked

not to be named. Saying he did not feel anything unusual in the country, he said "I am bewildered and disturbed" at the warning.

He and another American who talked to the Jordan Times said they need more information on them seriously," he said.

what prompted the warning. "Is it based on rumours or is it based on substantial evidence?" a

U.S. citizen said. He said be

would be alarmed by the warning

if it was based on solid informa-

tion "but my guess is that the

with the Amman-based ambassadors of Italy, Britain and Ger-

many in February was only to

Mr. Nazzal had met on two

separate occasions with an

Amman-based U.S. diplomat,

Enc Gaudiosi, after the expellee

"We met twice with Mr.

Gaudiosi, once in December and

once in January. At that time he

spoke to us of linking a commit-

ment on human rights issues and

the U.S. proposal to Israel which

would allow for the return of a

sizeable number of Palestinians

expelled since 1967," Mr. Nazzal

opposition to the concept of gra-

dual return of the expellees and

we wanted to lobby against the use of term terrorist when refer-

ring to our organisation," be said.

U.S., Canada, Russia, China and

Japan told Hamas that their

ambassadors would not be able to

meet with them for different

reasons, Mr. Nazzal said. The

French embassy did not respond

to a Hamas' request to meet with

the ambassador.

The diplomatic missions of the

'We wanted to express our

crisis began,

U.S. government is hypothesiz-Another U.S. citizen said be believed the American government was exaggerating the situa-

tion and that he will not take the warning seriously.

(U.S. officials) have cried wolf too often for me to take

### 🚟 Palestinian, settler killed

(Continued from page 1)

Arab conflict would bring an end to the violence. Rightists demanded stronger measures against

Mr. Rabin told reporters: "We riz must recognise that if there is a en solution, it is first of all the , political negotiations.'

Binyamin Netanyahu, contender for leadership of the Likud Party, said if Israel withdrew from Gaza in response to violence, its perpetrators would be encouraged to continue their actions to achieve further conces-

Housing Minister Beniamin "Den Eliezer said fsrael found it necessary to close off Gaza to calm the atmosphere but was aware of the social consequences.

"The extended closure means more despair... more poverty," he said, "Believe me, with all the pain, I know of no ideology in the world that provided an answer to someone who is dying of hunger or who cannot bring food to his children."

The stabbing suspect, apprehended at the site after knifing 11 people Monday near Tel Aviv's central bus station, is a 19-year-old from Gaza City's Zaitoun quarter, identified by police as Ziad Salameh Silmi.

Wielding two knives, Silmi rampaged through a commercial area during morning rush hour. He fatally stabbed Natan Azariya, a 28-year-old barber, and a Russian immigrant, Gregory Adramov, 27. Both were buried

Nine other people were wounded, including a woman who was still in the intensive care unit of Ichilov bospital Tuesday morning, officials said.

Police said they believe Silmi acted alone and quoted him as saying he staged the attack because he could not find work in Israel. He had no record of security offences, but Palestinians said he was a member of the fslamic Jihad group.

The group claimed responsibility in a statement issued in

The seaside strip, stuffed with ramshaekle refugee camps, is home to about 800,000 Palestinians. It has been a horbed of the five-year Palestinian uprising, and tensions have run especially high since fsrael expelled some 400 Palestinians to Lebanon in December.

The Arab League condemned the siege of Gaza and urged the international community to take measures to protect the Palestinians there.

The 21-member organisation expressed deep concern over the recent escalation of violence in the Israeli-occupied territories.

"The Arab League condemns Israel's repressive actions in the occupied territories, including the sealing off of the Gaza Strip, and urges the international community to take immediate measures to protect the Palestinians living under occupation and to send fact-finding missions," the Cairobased league said in a statement.

Police said civilians in Majdal

Silim, Khirbit Silim and Sulta-

niveh attacked Hizbollah mem-

bers after their villages were shel-

led Monday from batteries de-ployed in the "security zone" to

A police spokesman said: "Dozens of angry villagers took

to the streets shouting insults at

Hizbollab members and deman-

ding that they stop using their

villages as launching theatres for

attacks against the security

avenge a guerrilla attack.

attack against Israel.

### Shells land near exiles' camp

(Continued from page I)

"This testifies that the (expulsion) of physicians, professors, students and clergymen will not provide security for the Israeli people," commented Dr. Rantisi. The killing of innocent Palestinians will absolutely moti-vate the killing of Israelis," he

Fist fights erupted between villagers and Hizbollah members in three southern villages over the use by guerrillas of population centres as a launching pad for

Somalis inch towards peace talks (Continued from page 1)

Kismayu were unable to distribute aid for a second straight bay because of the unrest.

Previous fighting between Gen. Morgan and Col. Jess scuttled preliminary peace talks in

January but planning has started for a full peace conference to begin March 15 in Ethiopia. At peace talks scheduled in

Mogadishu on Tuesday, representatives of Somalia's factions

were to discuss a plan to disarm under U.N. supervision and 15 groups had turned in lists of their weapons to coalition leaders.

Marine Col. Peter Botto, chairman of the ceasefire committee, said the factions are eager to comply in order to present themselves as political groups and not warlords at the peace talks in Ethiopia.

"Some of the lists are exaggerated to try to play up their importance," Col. Botto said. "But nobody wants to be the last guy."

## 'Iran buying up ex-Soviet nuclear stores'

(Continued from page I)

the Gulf war, the Islamic Repub-Mr. Torkan said Iran planned to News Agency (fRNA), monito spend only \$850 milion in the Torkan as saying in an interview Monday that Iran's weapons purchases were dwarfed by re-· Ronal countries like Saudi Ara-

next 12 months, and that Saudi Arabia, whose population was only one-fourth of Iran's had a much larger defence budget.

# Hamas denies rejecting U.S. plan | Fertility rates dropping as women insist on contraception

By David Briscoe The Associated Press

confirm that "Hamas is not a terrorist organisation," Mr. Naz-WASHINGTON - In the developing world fertility rates are dropping, and at least balf of all married women outside Africa say they don't want another child, according to new studies.

> While world population growth is still a big concern, most countries in Asia, Latio America and the Caribbean have experienced significant declines in births over the last 30 years, the studies

Overall, surveys of more than 300,000 women in 44 developing countries show that fertility has

By Larry Ryckman The Associated Press

MOSCOW — For more than 12

hours, the dictator lay crumpled

on the floor of the darkened

dining room in his pajamas, un-

able to move or cry for help, a

copy of Pravda beside him and a

bottle of mineral water on the

table above. There was a look of

horror in his eyes when servants

Josef Stalin, hailed as the

genius of the nation, the father of

the homeland and the immortal

genius, was dying of a brain

The shocked Soviet people sat

by their radios waiting for word about the man who had ruled

their lives for three decades and

who, unknown to them, now lay

hostage to the cruel system he

Forty years after his death on

March 5, 1953, Russians are torn

about the man who sent millions

to their deaths and bullied his

backward country into becoming

For the former Soviet Union,

Stalin is an open wound. Ethnic

peoples he pulled together

through force, terror and mass

deportations now try to reclaim

old lands and settle old scores

through warfare that has killed

thousands since the federation

Stalin's final hours at his dacha

outside Moscow were a fitting

testament to his tyranny. No one

knew he had been stricken be-

cause his terrified servants dared

not enter his chambers uninvited.

His usual doctors were in prison

and his Communist colleagues

initially insisted their comatose,

73 year old leader was merely

heart of Lenin's comrade in arms

...has ceased to beat." Thirty-gun

came apart io 1991.

sleeping soundly.

finally found him.

hemorrhage.

a superpower,

declined from an average of six children per woman in the 1960s

The surveys also show a bigger women for birth cootrol.

"A reproductive revolution is spreading across much of the developing world," says a study being released this week by Johns Hopkins University's population information programme. It says awareness of contraception is now nearly universal and use of condoms and other birth control methods is rapidly rising.

But there is still a long way to go," the report says, noting that surveys show about 20 per cent of

to four today. than expected demand among

Third World women would like to

Forty years later

Stalin haunts Russia

together and ruled for a genera-

tion.
Millions of mourners filled the

streets of cities across the nation.

Hundreds of Muscovites were

crushed to death in the funeral

hysteria. Many people worried

whether his death had left the

Soviet Union easy prey for the

death, I immediately thought the

country would fall apart; I be-

lieved it," said Yuri Russky, a

66-year-old veteran of World War II. "I think it was mentioned

that Stalin himself said once: 'Af-

ter I die, they will seize you like

Burdonsky, was taken as an 11-

year-old to Moscow's hall of col-

umns, where the body lay in

probably, fear and bewilderment

that so many people were in the

hall and all were crying," Mr.

Burdonsky said in an interview.

"f didn't cry. fn fact, I couldn't

press a tear out of my eyes, which

added to my fear and bewilder-

For the beirs to Stalin's power,

there was more relief than grief

that his reign of terror was over. .

gan to stamp out his "cult of

personality." They stripped Sta-

lin's name from factories, ships,

cities, farms and streets, and pul-

led down monuments throughout

the land. On Oct. 31, 1961, they

removed his body from the Red

Square mausoleum he had shared

with Soviet founder Vladimir

Lenin and buried it nearby along.

De-Stalinisation stalled under

the Soviet empire, victory over

Nazi Germany, mass indus-

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His countrymen were over-come with grief when Moscow pointed with pride to Stalin's

radio finally announced: "the accomplishments: the forging of

salutes boomed in the capitals of trialisation and development of

the republics he had yoked the atomic bomb.

After a time, they quietly be-

"I felt no sorrow, but fear

Stalin's grandson, Alexander

"When I heard about Stalin's

avoid pregnancy but are not using birth control.

Though dramatic, the declining fertility rates are still well above the level of 2.1 children per family needed to stop rapid world population growth,

"Fertility has fallen over a much shorter period of time than experts predicted, but an average of four children is still twice the replacement rate," said Bryant Robey, principle author of the Johns Hopkins report.

World population is increasing and headed for 6 billion. United Nations projections show 97 million more people a year until the year 2000.

"The problem is that while

Anniversaries of his death were

observed quietly, with few daring

to say anything about him except

in his native Georgia, where Sta-

lin's memory was often praised. Mikhail Gorbachev renewed

the rehabilitation of Stalin's vic-

tims that was begun by Nikita S.

Khrushchev and declared that the

dictator had perverted the ideas

in public now stirs the same kind

United States about Vietnam in

the 1960s. Everyone has an

Grigory Ivanov. a 70 year old

veteran standing on crutches out-

side the Lenin Museum, said to a

Western reporter: "f didn't be-

lieve Stalin, even before the

him?" screamed two old women,

shoving towards Mr. Ivanov as an

increasingly hostile crowd spilled off the sidewalk, "The Germans

should have killed you, you

traitor, traitor, you brainless

the dizzying changes and chaos

since the Soviet Union collapsed,

long for a strong leader in Stalin's

mold - someone to fix the eco-

nomy, fight crime and stop ethnic

to gain strength at the expense of

reformers led by President Boris

Yeltsin. Hand held portraits of

Stalio were prominent at an anti-

Yeltsin rally of more than 10,000

lin's death reminds us quite vivid-

ly that Stalin is still with us," said

Mr. Yeltsin's military adviser, re-

"We must be vigilant.

tired Gen. Dmitry Volkogonov.

and Communists, who are now

becoming united, represent a

great threat to our country. And f

don't exclude the possibility of a

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The 40th anniversary of Sta-

Day and day, hard-liners seem

Many Russians, bewildered by

traitor.

Muscovites,

reign of terror."

Who were you not to believe

Bringing up the dictator's name

passion that was felt in the

A near-riot broke out when

each mother is having fewer children, there are more mothers." Mr. Robey said in an interview, "If the (fertility) rate hadn't fal-

len, we'd really be in a boom.' Recent surveys taken with U.S. Agency for International Development (USAfD) funding show African women, too, want to prevent births, Mr. Robey

"People used to say and believe that Africa was somehow different and fertility wasn't planning methods.

going to decline in Africa," Mr.

postpone their next pregnancy. while statistical projections in other countries show more want to stop baving children altogether, the surveys show.

They also show that about one third of women in the developing world are using modern family

A U.S. Commerce Depart Robey said. But the new surveys ment report released last weel show significant declines in Bots-points to the same fertility trends wana, Kenya and Zimbabwe. and it also notes rises in life In Africa, most women want to expectancy throughout much o the Third World as health effort

improve. The report, "Population and Health Transitions," says man nations are in a healthy "demog raphic transition," with the adult working population growing more rapidly than the number o babies being born.

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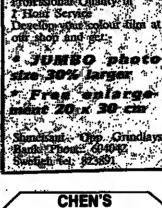






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### Kasparov, *i*nand ead chess *ournament*

NARES (R) - World chamin Garry Kasparov consoliled his position as joint leader the Linares Grandmaster s Tuurnament Monday with emphatic win against Russian geny Bareev in 34 moves, Kasparov, playing white, sur-sed his opponent with the unil factic of advancing his bishop the second move, frustrating urs of careful preparation by

Although Barcev managed to ich an equal position, he ran th and 31st moves. Kasparov encircled Bareev's

with a queen and hishop. d faced with unavoidable eckmate. Bareev resigned. Kasparov's fellow competitors ve qualified praise to the world ampion's performance. "It was the most impressive game, it it was a good win," said utch grandmaster Jan Timman. "I have seen better games, hut vints do not always come beautilly." Indian star Viswanathan nand added.

Anand, who beat Boris Gelnd in 40 moves, and outsider lexander Belyavsky are sharing e lead with Kasparov on three d a half points from five games. Anand sacrificed a piece on his h move in return for a strong



Garry Kasparov

attack. Belyavsky could find nothing better than giving up a rook and trying unsuccessfully to draw. Belyavsky, 39 and ranked 42 in the world, beat 7th-ranked Latvian Alexei Shirov, 20, in 52

Ex-world champion Anatoly Karpov slipped behind the leaders when he failed 10 beat 1ailender Vassily Ivanchuk. A draw was agreed after 42 moves.

Ex-Soviet Prodigy Gata Kamsky. 18, moved up the table with a win agaisnt Jan Timman in 50 moves after the Dutchman hlundered and lost a pawn. He and Karpov now have three points

from five games. Artur Yusupov drew with fel-low Russian Vladimir Kramnik and Yugoslav Ljubomir Ljubojevic adjourned after six hours' play against Russian Val-

ery Salov in a knight endgame. Ljubojevic, who has two extra pawns, is expected to win when play resumes Wednesday.

## **All-Star Tournament** begins today

By Aleen Bannayan Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Jordan's second All-Star Tournament, organised by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) begins Wednesday at Al Orthodoxi Court,

Players in this year's Oki All-Star Tournament represent all but one of the Kingdom's First Division teams. Al Ahli Club last week announced that players of their First Division team would not participate in the All-Star Tournament, as the JBF has not yet resolved their First Division title match controversy of Jan. 26. The club however urged their under-22 players to take part so as not to disrupt the under-22 national team's prepara-tions for the Asian Championship in April.

Parlicipating players had neen initially divided to five teams. However, when one of the sponsors pulled out of the tournament and Al Ahli stood by their decision, the number of teams was brought down to four

The Daihalsu team, which groups the under-22 national leam will be coached by the JBF's Russian coach. Players include Al Orthodoxi's Mun-



Marad Barakat



Fans will miss stars like Al Abli's Marwan Ma'touq

taser Abul Tayyeb, and Ziyad Al Nabulsi; Al Ahli's Mohammad Al Shamali, and Marwan Al Saeedi; and Al Jazireh's Ghaith Ennabi and Anwar

Mohammad Al Najjar will be the Toyota team coach. The team will greatly benefit from Jordan's undisputed basketball slar Murad Barakat.

The Mitsubishi team includes Al Orthodoxi's star Hilal Barakat as well as Al Ahli's Walid Badran and Al Watani's Nadim Nahhas and Hani Al

Fadi Al Sabhah will be the Hyundai team coach. The team includes mostly young players like Al Orthodoxi's Jihad Saliba and Jan Sahlieh. Al Jazireh's Munzer Muheisen, and Homentmen's Vicken Avakian.

The matches will all be played at 8.30 p.m. The tournament will run up to March 22.

**GOREN BRIDGE** 

ON THE CUTTING ROOM FLOOR

### Gilbert wins, Forget eliminated

INDIAN WELLS, California (AP) — Brad Gilbert, the oldest player in the \$1.7 million Champions Cup, railied for a 6-7, 6-2, 7-6 victory over ninth-seeded Ser-Bruguera of Spain Monday in a

first-round match.
Gilbert, 31, who will represent the United States in a first-round Davis Cup match against Austra-lia in Melbourne later this month. win the third-set tiebreaker 7-4 to complete the 2-hour, 39-minute match

Gilbert won the first five games of the match, but Bruguera won the next five and ultimately, the Spaniard won the first set tiebeaker 7-3.

The second set was tied 2-2 before Gilbert swept four straight games without losing a point to even the match

Bruguera won the first four games of the third set before Gilbert won the next five. Bruguera won two of the next three, setting up the tiebreaker.

"It was a strange match," Gilbert said. "He was complaining every game about line calls. I kept fighting back. Never in my career bave I lost a set when I was up 50."

None of the other top 10 seeds played Monday. Guy. Forget of France, seeded 11th, was also upset, losing to Jim Grabb 7-6, 6-3.

The other two seeded players in action Monday both won 13-thseeded Malivai Washington beat qualifier Patrick Rafter of Australia 7-5, 7-5, and 16th seeded Arnaud Boetsch of France outlasted Marcelo Filippini of Uru-

guay 6 2, 3 6, 6 3.

Fourteen of the top 10 players in the world are competing in the tournament at the Grand Champions Resort. Top seeded Jim Courier, ranked No. 1 in the world, faces David Wheaton in a second-round match. Wheaton advanced by beating qualifier Alex O'Brien 6-1, 7-5 Monday. Second-seeded Pete Sampras, fifth seeded Peter Korda of Czechoslovakia, sixth-seeded Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia, seventh-seeded Andre Agassi and eighth seeded l-lichael Stich of Germany all wait until Wednesday before making their

round matches. In other first-round matches Monday, Todd Martin defeated Wayne Black of Zimbabwe 7-6, 6-0 Carl Uwe Steeb of Germany eliminated Tomas Carbonell of Spain 6-0, 3-6, 7-6; Jakod Hlasek of Switzerland outlasted Cedric nce 6-7, 7-6, Richney Reneberg topped Jordi Arrese of Spain 7-5, 7-5; Luis Mattar of Brazil beat Robbie Weiss 6-3, 6-4; Jaime Yzaga of Peru rallied to defeat Stefano Pescosolidao of Italy 5-7, 6-3, 6-1: Francisco Clavet of Spain overpowered Gabriel Markus of Argen-

tournament debuts in second-

tina 6 3. 6-2. The tournament runs through Sunday. The singles champion will earn \$235,000 and the runner up will get \$123,000.

## World Youth Soccer Championship

## Russians hit by extra jet lag; Americans confident

SYDNEY (AP) — A revamped Russian team will have to contend with extra jet lag as it prepares for its opening match Saturday against Cameroon in the World Youth Soccer Cham-

The Russian squad was due to arrive in Australia Tuesday but missed a connecting flight in Sing-apore. The team will now fly into Sydney, en route to Canberra, Wednesday morning.
Russia, one of Australia's

Group A opponents in the tournament, will have just over 72 hours to acclimatize and pre-pare for its first match against Cameroon in Australia's federal

Australia plays Russia at the Sydney Football Stadium next Monday. The host team will be keen to avenge defeat by the then Soviet Union in the playoff for third place at the last youth championship in Portugal in 1990.

The delay could severely disadvantage the Russians, who will be playing out of season in relatively not temperatures. They will also be without some of the players who helped them clinch a berth in the final 16.

The collapse of the Soviet Union and the subsequent breakup of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) resulted in a

number of star Ukrainian players having to withdraw from the squad to play in Australia.

Russia is the only side still to arrive for the championship which gets under way Friday when Australia plays Colombia . at the Sydney Football Stadium.

Eurupean champion Turkey
was greeted by 600 members of
Melbourne's Turkish community

Tuesday, while the strong English side arrived on the same flight. England is at full strength for the tonrnament and will parade six players with Premier League experience. But coach David Burnside was cautious in asses-

sing the side's chances. "I can't understand why people consider us to be one of the favourites," he said.

Bnruside said he feels the team's lasck of experience play-ing as a unit will negate the milliance of a number of big

name players such as Tottenham Hotspur midfielder Nick Bamby. England and Turkey are expected to fight out Group C, but United States coach Bohby Howe warned not to underestimate his side's chances in the Melbourne

Soon after arriving Tuesday, Howe promised his side would not be overawed by the Euro-

The former West Ham star said his team of underdogs has come to Australia with the aim of reaching the quarter finals.

"If any team in the group thinks we're going to be pushovers, then they will have to think again," Howe said. "We're very fit, extremely competitive, not tactically naive, and I think quite

We'll surprise a few people, that's our intention.

The other member of Group C. South Korea, also arrived in Mel-bourne Tuesday, confident of causing an upset.

The talented Korean side sined valuable experience under Australian conditions in last month's international challenge and has been reinforced with a number of key players.

Coach Sang In Park expects Brazil, rather than pool oppo-nents Turkey and England, to be the team to beat in the cham-

Two of Brazil's opponents, Mexico and Saudi Arabia, arrived in Adelaide Tuesday. They will join Norway in trying to npset the South Americans in Group D.

Group B teams, playing in Brisbane, are Portugal, winner of the past two world youth champiouships, Uruguay, former champions Germany and Ghana

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY MARCH 3, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Disagreeing openly with others could take away from the harmony and the happiness you have been working to establish within you immediate family and social associates.

Don't make waves.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A fixed cul-de-sac could occur between you and an attachment early in the day but keep poised and later avoid the temptation to run off to new scene. off to new scenes.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can't get a recalcitrant outside associate to go along with your desires early to put off until a bener time, later your hunches do not serve you well.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You find it difficult to work out a course of action whereby duties are easily rightly done, afterwards you have no better success with an independent

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Keep cheerful despite a moody atmosphere from loved ones upsetment and later steer clear of tedious tasks that put you in had become

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Rise above some trying conditions at your residence, let your family know you appreciate them while afterwards keep away from expen-

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) A day when it will seem to be

THE BETTER HALF

almost impossible to live what you actually believe in but keep doing your best and it won't be won't be

too hard for you. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Yon feel a lack of the good thiogs of life early but don't push yet for a greater abundance while

later it is necessary to use extreme care in motion. SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem ber 21) You want to let fly un-pleasantly in all directions but it would only boomerang on you so use self-control; then stick to a hudger already decided upon. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

December 2t) A private anxiety can keep you mulling it over so you are non-productive so busy yourself otherwise, later don't expect friends to do your bidding. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A demanding acquaintance can really cause you problems if around now so slip away from such a person and later you find other issues to be solved. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Keep strictly out of the public eye early or criticism, de-served or not, will be trended

towards you; then tonight avoid being a gregarius Aquarius. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Stay where you are and don't go roaming off to new interests during the morning hours while tonight you need to avoid and public limelight with caginess.

By Glasbergen

GIASBERGEN

## High-flying Milan confident. of European success

LONDON (R) — Italian high fliers AC Milan clash with Portuguese leaders Porto in the European Cup Wednesday, following a perfect preparation match at

the weekend. Milan beat Sampdoria 4-0 Sun-day, with two goals from French striker Jean-Pierre Papin and the sort of confidence that has taken them to 56 league matches with-out defeat and 10 points clear at the top of the first division.

"I saw a very good Milan, taking into account that we were playing a well-organised team... their 'coach Fabio Capello said, For the Porto match in Group B of the semifinal league stage, Capello may be without Dutchman Frank Rijkaard, who suffered an ankle injury and was

substituted in the second half of

Sunday's game. If Rijkaard drops out, his place will be taken by Croat Zvonimir Boban, while Dutchman Ruud Gullit and Papin are the other expected selections among the Milan foreigners.

Porto also scored a comfortable win Saturday, 3-0 against Salgueiros, but are bottom of Group B standings with one point from two games against Milan's ge Wednesday. four. Portuguese newspapers, following Milan's progress, warned

Porto Monday they were up against the best in Europe. The other Group B clash sees PSV Eindhoven of the Netherlands at bome to Sweden's IFK Gothenburg,

PSV dropped a point this weekend with a 2-2 draw against lowly FC Den Bosch and also lost goalkeeper Hans Van Breukelen, sent off in the second half with two bookings,

Van Breukelen had only just returned to the side after three weeks out with a band injury. PSV, who have been dogged by mjury in the past few weeks, are looking fitter, with midfielder

Erwin Koeman back on the

bench and probably ready to play Wednesday. Only striker Juni Ellerman is out after a knee operation last Wednesday. In Group A. CSKA go to Berlin to meet Milan's chief challengers Marseille, losing 1991 finalists and hoping to become the first French side to lift the

With three points from the two games played, Marseille lead the standings ahead of Glasgow Rangers on goal difference. Rangers are away to Belgium's Club Brug-

Brugge escaped an embarrassing home defeat by bottom- is suspended.



Hans Van Brenkelen

Brugge were trailing 3-1 after

Brugge have a bost of prob-lems. Defender Pascal Plovie, Hungarian Libero Laszlo Disztl and Australian Defender Paul Okon are all unavailable for the clash with injuries, while striker Stephan Van der Heyden, wbo converted the spot kick Saturday,

ranked Lommel in the Belgian competition.

an hour but equalised from the penalty spot only seven minutes from time.

### **Andy Capp**







## Peanuts



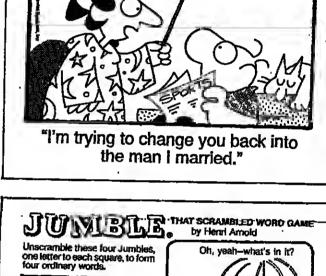


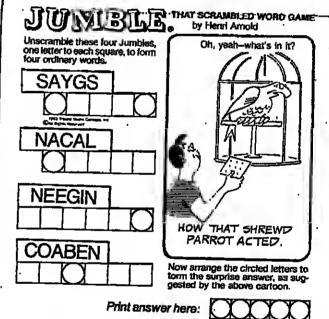


### Mutt'n'Jeff

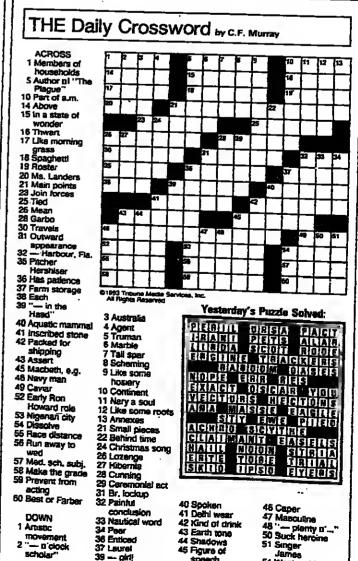








Jumbles: PANIC SHYLY SYSTEM FINITE The sort of backing that's essential for getting a man through life—HIS SPINE



40 Spoken 41 Dethi wear 42 Kind of drink 43 Earth tone

34 Peer 36 Enticed 37 Laurel

### North-South vulnerable. North NORTH # A 7 6 A 10 6 5 R Q 8 5 3 WEST ♦ Q J 3 2 7 J 9 3 2 0 6 + K 10 9 3 2 ↑ SOUTH +K5 KQ84 **♦ Q** 5 4

W:TH OMAR SHARIF A TANNAH HIRSCH

North East South Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass Opening lead: Ten of . Dear Tannah: We actors have an advantage going for us the director makes sure

our worst work ends up on the cutting woon floor. I am sure that's where South would have liked to consign this hand. Since responder wasn't sure that the queen of clubs was working or that North had four hearts, South

elected to invite game by bidding

three diamonds. Obviously, North needed no fu. her urging.
West led a spade, taken in the

closed hand with the king. Since the game was cold with a reasonable trump break, declarer started on hearts. When the king and ace revealed the unlucky break, declarer could not afford to draw a third tound before brooking out the season. found heli anorth to traw a unitary tound before knocking out the ace of diamonds. Unfortunately, West won the first diamond lead and gave East a ruff. East underlied the ace of clubs, and West had the entry to give East a second diamond ruff

Actually, declarer could have made the hand by doing some cut-ting—of communications, that is. After discovering the 4-1 trump split, declarer should have led a chub from dummy. East cannot rise with the ace and return a trump. West, when in with the ace of diamonds, will be unable to lead another club. Declarer can win any other return (a club would be ruffed) and force out the ace of diamonds. With no entry back to the West hand, the defenders can get at most one ruff, and

Published Every Thursday

# Syrian painter carves a niche in local art scene



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Oil and mixed media on canvas by the Syrian artist Ali Hussein currently on display at the Baladna Gallery

By Stephanie Genkin and Curt Ryan

Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN - Carving a niche for Syrian artists in the Amman art scene, the Baladna Gallery is currently featuring the work of Ali Hussein, as the latest in a series of exhibitions.

A native of Aleppo, Mr. Hussein has been exhibiting his abstract art throughout Syria since 1983. Unlike the majority of artists exhibiting in the Amman gallery circuit, he has not received formal training at an art institute.

Instead, his artistic education has been privately acquired. In addition to his experience as an painter. Mr. Hussein is also an illustrator of children's stories. Yet it is his collection of oil paintings that is currently on display at the gallery.

Mr. Hussein's abstract style is consistent throughout the exhibition. However, his focus on a variation of themes lends diversity to the

Relying mainly on the use of oil on canvas, much of the

artist's work experiments with various brush techniques and the introduction of additional media.

All feature liberal use of paint, layered on the surface of the canvas. The manner in which Mr. Hussein applies paint is reminiscent of a stucco surface.

In some works, this is complemented by a dry wash of pure white paint, yielding a speckled effect that gives a frosty quality to the image. In another set of paintings. strips of canvas and other material are added to the surface to produce a very literal three dimensional and textured quality.

#### ART REVIEW

These techniques are applied throughout Mr. Hussein's four predominant themes. His eye-catching landscapes, cubist-influenced buildings, speckled flowers in vases, and dreamy portraits of an individual woman. together make up the artist's abstract collection.

It is the trio of striking landscapes, however, that immediately captures the

this, plus two threadhare

blankets and the tent that is

now our home we were

forced to sign a receipt for

1500 (Egyptian) pounds

(\$452). It takes my husband

10 months to earn that

All the occupants of this

hastily erected refugee camp

are angry that so little : has

been done to rehouse them

or start work on their homes

in the months that have pas-

sed since the earthquake. But

for 24 families it is an espe-

cially bitter pill to swallow.

These people were joint own-

ers of a six-story apartment

block called El Gharib and

down a lump sum and were

paying off the rest in monthly

the apartment block may not

reinforced concrete pillars

which support much of its

weight have given way at the

base and they crumble at the

someone who is honest com-

"All we are asking is that

visitor's attention upon arrival to the gallery. The three play upon the illusions that can be created through stucco

The first, a torest scene. portrays the break of day bursting through a gap in the thick of the treetops. Underscoring the living quality of fauna; the artist's stucco style produces a series of individual veins of texture and colour, which merge together to form each tree.

In the next landscape, Mr. Hussein incorporates paper mache layers snaking and curving in the foreground to emphasize the rugged quality of a hillside. The thickness of the paint and the additional media make this work amongst the most threedimensional in the collection.

The last landscape in the series draws on the vein-like images in the trees, grass, and stones. However, hy toning down the severity of the stucco technique, the mountains and sky looming in the hackground appear to be more gentle than the more dramatic elements which

dominate the painting. Tucked away in the corner of the gallery is perhaps Mr. Hussein's most simple - yet most impressive - work. Painting only the sea and the sky, the artist uses painted canvas on canvas which subtly creates the effect of gentle and realistic waves. One feels the serenity of a calm sea at night, illuminated by a sole fleck of light emanating from a sliver of the moon hanging off-centre in the sky.

While the landscapes are the most captivating works. there is also a considerable number of portraits sprinkled through out the collection. The same woman is featured in all the portraits, and is painted with a tenderness which leaves the viewer wondering if there is a story behind this series.

When pressed to share the story of these paintings the artist explained that they were simply portraits. Mo-ments later, however, Mr. Hussein smiled, admitting that this woman is in fact soon to be his wife.

In observance of Rama-dan, the Baladna Gallery will be open to visitors from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m and will reopen from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The exhibition will remain open to the public until March 15.

### **BOOK REVIEWS**

Special pleading

International Law and the Administration of Occupied Territories: two decades of Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip Edited by Emma Playfair

Clarendon Press, Oxford 1992, £55

This large, important and expensive work has its origins in an international conference in 1987 about the response of Israel's legal system to the challenge of the occupied territories. The importance of the story the 17 contributors have to tell survives this delay. It is a tale of intellectual

The first six chapters discuss the framework of international law within which an occupying power is obliged to operate. Central to this are the 1907 Hague Convention and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. The Hague Convention speaks in generalities, the Fourth Geneva Convention is highly specific. Both, however, deny the occupier the right to exploit the occupied, whether hy imposing new taxes, hy dispossession or by the transfer or settlement of residents; and both permit an occupying power to take those steps necessary to safeguard the security of its occupying forces.

Since Israel has in fact raised new taxes, expropriated land, deported Palestinians and created Israeli settlements all of them beyond its legal competence as an occupying power — its independent judiciary has had to perform two separate operations in order to transform unlawful activity into something Israeli courts can view as legal. The most interesting sections of this book discuss these manipulations. The courts began hy diminishing the ambit of international law applicable to the territories. Thus they have, for example, refused to accept that the Fourth Geneva Convention applies to the territories, hy reading the Convention to mean that it applies only to sovereign territory. Since Egypt and Jordan do not claim "sovereignty" over the Gaza Strip and West Bank, Israel's courts have ruled that Israel is not bound by treaty to apply the Convention. Unfortunately for this argument, the Convention states that it applies to all territory occupied during war, and Israel also refused to apply it to Sinai or the Golan Heights, where Egypt and Syria never refrained from asserting their sovereignty.

This is not the only example of Israel's special pleading. The country's judges could have ruled that, regardless of who enjoyed sovereignty over the occupied territories, the Geneva Convention was automatically applicable, on the basis that it does little more than particularise long established principles of international law, and as such forms part of customary international law. Customary international law is ipso facto part of the internal law of every country. In the eyes of Israel's judges, however, the Geneva-Convention is no-more than a treaty obligation made between contracting states. That means that until Israel legislates to incorporate the treaty into domestic law. the courts will refuse to recognise it.

Having thus reduced the amount of international law they would recognise, Israel's judges then began to twist what hitle they might apply to favour the settlers and their state. Emma Playfair itemises this process. For example: The Hague Convention states that the occupier must respect "unless absolutely prevented, the laws in force in the country". In 1981, at a time when over 854 military orders had been issued changing laws previously in force. the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that, "actually, 'the prevention' mentioned at the end of Article 43 is not absolute at all ... The question is one of the preferable and convenient means...

The court had further occasion to twist language when it needed to legalise civilian settlements. An occupying power, acting to ensure the security of its own forces, may take temporary control of other people's property. But this is only lawful so long as the reason for expropriation really is one of security. In Israel, however, the courts have stretched the concept of security far beyond its meaning to embrace anything that makes "it easier for the army to carry out its task". Perhaps most shocking of all has been the decision of Israel's courts to redefine the local population whose interests an occupier must serve to

include Israeli settlers. The next section of the book focuses on Israel's administration of the occupied territories. Antonio Cassese describes the duties and powers an occupier has over land and natural resources, and in the next chapter we learn from Ibrahim Matar what this particular occupying power has done to deprive Palestinians of their water. Other topics covered are trade unions rights discussed by John Quigley and Joost Hiltermann; taxation, financial administration and economic policies analysed by Gerhard von Glahn. Hisham Jahr and Hisham Awartani, and the administration of occupied territories examined by Christ-opher Greenwood and Mona Rishmawi.

The standard of the papers in this important book is uniformly high. It is accessible to the lay reader and deserves to be read widely. However, before a cheaper paperback edition is issued, the editor, who deserves commendation for an immaculate production, should update the collection with a review of the main decisions of the Israeli High Court over the last five years - Middle East International.

Peter Parker

## Egypt's earthquake victims still waiting for help

much.'

By Katia Sabet

EL AYYAT, Egypt — In this small town, 60 kilometres of Cairo, one "might expect to see stone-masons busy at work, scaffolding being erected and building sites springing up everywhere. For El Ayyat was heavily damaged by the earthquake of Oct. 12, which killed 552 people in Egypt nationwide, injured almost 10,000 and left more than 5,000 families homeless. This town was one of the closest to the epicenter of the quake and, on a per capita scale, it suffered the worst damage anywnere in Egypt.

· · Yet there is little to suggest that emergency work is being done to help the poor, always the first victims. Behind the wall which separates the town's youth club from the main road, stand rows of orange tents, with lines of washing strung between them to dry in the wind. Children play near their canvas homes while women attempt to do their washing in aluminum basins on the ground. Their menfolk stand around glumly, at a loss for what to do.
" All around them are the remains of their former bomes, some of them in fuins, others evacuated because they are in danger of

collapsing. Further away is a cluster of a hundred or so more tents, smaller and even more basic and tattered than the others. Here, there is no electricity and little in the way of cooking facilities. Human waste is left exposed to the open air and there are just two or three taps for drinking water. "What's going on in El Ayyat? ex-claims Salah Zaki Moustapha, a 50-year-old former railwayman who took early retirement hecause of a coronary condition. "We've been here, sitting on the bare ground since Oct. 12, that's what is going on. There are more than 500 families living

like this." Salah and others like him claim that almost nothing has been done to alleviate the plight of the earthquake victims, in spite of copious promises made by the authorities.

"No-one has intervened to help us. We've had to make do by ourselves," says Salah. "These 'full meals' they keep talking about on television are just a lot of eyewash. None of us has ever had so much as a sniff of anything to eat, except for what we can scavenge. We've been forbidden to light stoves in the tents and we don't know how to bathe our children. They're dirty and some of them have scahies. We've all been hit by chronic diarrhea and as for the toilets, I'll show them to. you if you have the stomach for it.

In his hand Salah holds a tattered length of cotton. Closer inspection reveals it to be an old army blanket, worn to shreds and dyed black. "Look at the blankets they have given us," he says. "Where are the hlankets that we're supposed to have been sent from abroad?" A smaller, more timid man interjects: "Every morning I wake up with my face all dirty from the dye which has come off the hlanket. A woman approaches and points to a foam mattress no more than 4 cm thick. "Look at the mattresses we're sleeping on," she says. "In order to have



Only two or three water taps are available for hundreds of homeless in El Ayyat, and there are little prospects that life will im-

es to see what is happening in El Ayyat," says one of a group women living in the tents. "We are cold. We're having to pay for everything we need. An old man who developed a kidney infection as a result of the poor health conditions here had to spend his savings — 450 Egyptians pounds — on hospital treat-ment." One child has already died of exposure in this makeshift camp, where the nights can be hitterly cold. The refugees who live here say they are appalled that they are being forced to pay for medical care, most of it made necessary hy their liv-ing conditions. "At the hospital, we have to buy a 'ticket' in order to be examined, and that costs a pound," says Adel Hafez, a worker. "Then we have to buy the drugs they prescribe for us from the private sector pharmacies. How on earth are we supposed to pay for them?'

"What happened to the millions in aid sent from overseas?" shouts someone else. "If our houses are falling down, if we buy shoddily constructed apartment huildings from the government, it's because we're poor. Here there are no factories and no prospects." says Salah: "They should set up training centres and apprenticeships, turn our young people into specialists and export them abroad. Our youth is our fortune. We mustn't let them

rot here, with no work and no pany to repair the damaged huildings, he says. "The re-pair works will begin in a future. And don't tell me that this is a separate issue because if we were rich and had work, we wouldn't be sleeping in these tents now. Our main problem is the fact that we are poor." Everyone in the camp criticises the head of the city council, Ahmad Noureddin, who, in turns, defends, the

way the council has dealt with the disaster. "We are among the worst hit towns. The number of huildings damaged in this region is put at 23,000, more than in all three of the. other regions put together. It's going to take time to tackle the situation." he says. "Here, 170 houses have collapsed but most of the people whose houses have suffered less serious damage have already been able to return home. In the rural areas, we've spent 4 million pounds so far (\$1.2 million). But it is true that for the town of El Ayyat itself, the government is still in the process of deciding what steps to take."

El Ayyat's chief citizen says surveyors have already inspected the damage and submitted reports. A halfmillion pound deal will soon be signed between the council and a construction com-

week and will be finished within a month," predicts Noureddin. ""As for the El Gharih apartment block, it has still to be decided whether to repair it or to demolish it. Naturally, if it is demolished the owners will each be given an apartment. Not here in El Ayyat — there is nothing available. It will be in some other town, in El Saff or elsewhere."

Noureddin's words do little

to comfort the refugees. They are skeptical that the work on their homes will go ahead fast, and fearful of being sent to live in other towns far from their roots and their families. As winter sets in, Salah, for one, is conviced that life under canvas is something he and his family are going to have to get used to. Salah is a former soldier. He served in the army from 1964 to 1973, during the difficult years of war between Egypt and Israel. "And here I am now," he says bitterly. "Sitting on the bare ground, living with my children in a tent. And the worst thing is, we don't have the slightest hope of getting out of here." -World News Link.

### THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK

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Govern a great nation as you would cook a small fish don't overdo it — Confucius, Chinese philosopher (555 B.C.-479 B.C.).

Death is a very dull, dreary affair, and my advice to you is to have nothing whatever to do with it — W. Somerset Maugham, English writer (1874-1965).

That man is richest whose pleasures are the cheapest -Henry David Thoreau, American writer (1817-1862).

Tis the mind that makes the body rich — Shakespeare, English playwright (1564-1616).

in the devastated town of El Ayyat, families left homeless after facilities, electricity and proper the earthquake in October are still

living in tents without cooking sanitation.

Spc

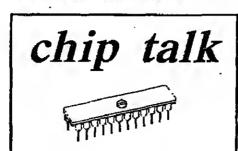
#### By Jean-Claude Elias

Personal computing has become a household topic discussed in most publications, ranging from children-oriented magazines to business reports. One of the hottest subjects that has got users of PCs — personal computers concerned is the alleged negative effect of computer games. These games have been accused of being hazardous to the health of all those who have become addicted to them, most particularly children.

A British daily recently asserted that excessive practice of computer games puts such an amount of stress on a young 'player' that it can lead him or her to epilepsy. At best it can cause dizziness, stomach pain and migraine. None of these claims so far have been technically proven or confirmed by any official medical source. In last week's issue of the French monthly Paris-Match, a well-known neurologist said that these exaggerations are ridiculous and not justified.

Last year, the media was talking about the health hazard that computer monitors put on pregnant women. A study showed a direct link between the number of abortions and the number of hours that pregnant computer operators spent before the small screen. Both the psychosomatic and the physical aspects were considered. It was decided that the first was negligible while the radiation (not radioactive) emitted by the tube — cathode ray tube (CRT) — of the monitor and the electric field generated around it was found guilty. Manufacturers responded with a new type of "low-emission" monitor. Itts level of radiation is so low that it can be considered as negligible. Now most north European countries. Scandinavia in particular, forbid the use, manufacturing and import of any monitor that is not of the "low-emission" type. Such a computer screen is three to four times more expensive than the regular one.

Whether physical or not, causing a simple headache or more, it is widely agreed that extended hours of computing do put some kind of stress on the user. Itt shouldn't come as a surprise and it doesn't take a specialised physician to tell you that six hours in a row in a chair, staring at the PC monitor and typing difficult commands on the keyboard is not as healthy as a nice walk in the mountains in spring. We



already know what long hours of TV watching can do. Typists know where their stiff neck comes from. Taxi drivers sitting all day long in their cab know the damage done to their back. Computing is a little of all these plus the mental difficulty involved in communicating with a soph-

Suppose you have a one-page letter to write to your friend and try to imagine which scenario would be more relaxing and pleasant. In the first one, you take the pen you always carry in your shirt-pocket, a writing pad and sit at your desk facing the window to start writing. In the second scenario, you switch on the computer, start the word processing programme, try to remember the command that lets you open a new page, then you make some typing mistakes, look for the "spelling check" command, the "save" command, struggle with the printer in the "paper jam" position, and then decide that it is easier to call your friend on the phone.

Naturally, professionals and experienced PC users find it easier to use the machines for they are past the sometimes stressful learning stage. It is also known and agreed. as often discussed in this very column, that there are tasks that are impossible to perform without computers. Computer games on the other end, if practiced for hours, do certainly put a lot of stress on the mind - and the nerves - of the young who feel they are challenging some kind of robots and have to be up to it. PC users will enter their maturity age when they are able to organise their work on the computer and make it efficient, easy and comfortable.

### JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

All- Thursday, March 4

Fede Wed 8:30 Uncle Buck

Ph When Miles is abused by his All-Scruel school teacher who exall b pells him from the school Club choir, Uncle Buck comes to play lus rescue.

the 9:10 Forever Green

their Phil pays a visit to the house cont of Jack and Harriet where he club finds the time to make a undenumber of wild bird experiso a ments.

pion 10:30 News In English

beer 10:20 Feature Film - The tean Old Man And The Sea

tout An old fisherman is attacked by t by sharks, when he goes out four to sea in his little boat.

tear Friday, March 5

uncl St.341 Billy

Mary failed to combine hetween her housework, her work as a dental receptionist and her poetry classes at night. This is where Billy comes in to lend her a helping iund.

9:10 E.N.G.

File news team at Channel 10 tracks down two reports, concerning a dog thief who sells Muthem to one of the laborator---- ies and a gangster who comes back home with his evil deeds after being expelled from abroad.

10:00 News In English

it:20 Columbo

Columbo investigates the verimes committed a deputy deap-slice chief and his neigh-

Saturday, March 6

3:30 America's Funniest Home Videos

9:00 Perspective

9:30 Science Workshop

Th This documentary episode deals with the evolution of 2 the very fast train industry in Germany, and the overcommg of sound and atmospherie

ou!0:00 News In English

problems.

co 10:20 Bestseller - An Amer kun Lore

B An Italian professor goes to the United States on a three**Making News!** VIR.7

E.N.G. on Friday at 9:10

month business trip leaving his wife behind. A female assistant is appointed and a kind of intimacy begins to develop, gradually leading to a love story from one side.

Sunday, March 7

8:30 Who's The Boss

Funny situations occur when Mrs. Rossini pays the family a visit and at the same time Mona invites a friend of hers to dinner.

9:10 Documentary — Equinox

This is an episode about the technological development in the making of space suits to accomodate the requirements of being inside a space shuttle or for walking on the moon.

10:00 News In English

Bestseller — An American

Part Two

Monday, March 8

8:30 Step By Step

Trank fails in his tests time

and time again in order to get 9:10 Dirtwater Dynasty

a new driver's license. 9:10 Marlin Bay

While hunting deer in a helicopter Steve and his friend are shot at by the native residents of the area. forcing them to have an emergency

10:00 News In English

10:20 Jordan Weekly

10:40 Vietnam

The minister, along with his wife and daughter, escape to Sidney where demonstrations against the Vietnam War are taking place. And under the supervision of American intelligence, the minister's son volunteers to carry out a mission against the Vict Kong.

Tuesday, March 9

8:30 Perfect Strangers

As always, Larry and Balky have contradicting opinions and ideas. This time Balky and Mary-Anne decide to get married according to his own traditions in Mepos, but Larry tries to convince him to have the old traditional way of marriage in church.

Amy manages to regain her father's land from Richard. And Nancy finds her long gone husband who has deserted her.

10:00 News In English 10:20 "Big Man"

Jack Climenti investigates another forgery of rare ancient ruins made by a gang in Italy

Wednesday, March 10

8:30 Saved By The Bell

Jessie feels great jealousy when Slater's old girlfriend joins Bayside School, but she leaves the decision to Slater to choose between them.

9:00 Spotlight

9:30 Documentary - After Us The Deluge

This episode talks about the dangerous amount of pollution in big crowded cities like Cairo. Moscow and Rio.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Noble House

# A cry in the dark

By E. Yaghi

When the windows of the soul are closed, there are so many sights that escape the eyes of the would-be-beholder, such as the body of the sky torn by the scarlet rays of the setting sun, a morning orchid washed with the dew of midnight, the wings of eagles beating the blue of day with flight, a furry soft rabbit, the smile of a little baby, the first leaves as they burst forth on trees in spring, or the reflection of the self in an oft-visited mirror. There is no way for one who has lost his or her sight to be able to read expressions on others' faces; are they angry, sad, excited, happy? Our eyes tell us so much about the world around us. and yet, they are one of the countless blessings we tend to take for granted.

Nour was born on Nov. 20, 1970. She lost her sight in an accident when she was just an infant and now recollects, "I don't remember seeing. I have no clear images of anything and when I want to visualise people, I draw them in my

imagination.

Her father didn't believe in having a large family, rather he wanted to be able to provide a smaller number of children with a superior education. When Nour was five years old, she went to a private school in the Gulf. Since there was no special school for the handicapped, she attended a kind of institution where the best teachers in the country were employed. They were either educated in America or Egypt and all had their PhDs. The handicapped children were of many different nationalities and because the number of physically disabled in the Gulf was not many, there was no problem in according them an education. Nour learned Braille in English and the Taylor method in mathematics. The curriculum was not geared for disabled students in the sense of their being handicapped, hut for ordinary pupils who must learn the same subjects taught at any quality institution. Nour therefore, learned sciences and attended lab classes and studied the human body. She knows the shape of the kidneys, glands, lungs, etc. She graduated from high school and got her GCE and also sat for the Tawjihi test. In Kuwait, because all her teachers had their doctorates, they spent more time on their pupils than instructors in any other school. Sometimes there were only two students in a class. One time there was only one and that was Nour. The budget of the school allowed the fees to cover the least amount of students in a classroom. Nour graduated as one of the top ten students in

About those close to her, she comments: "My family treats me equally as any other member and my friends are religious and suite me in morals. Not one of them bas ever been disloyal to me or betrayed me!"

Perhaps this can be attributed to Nour's magnetic smile and her winning personality. Her friends are devoted to ber and there seems to be a special link of love between her and them. In every lecture she can be seen sitting and listening to her professor with a charming smile on her face. Her innocence and purity is stimulating and her determination an inspiration to those gifted with sight. Nour's family

considers her a genius and of course, cherish her dearly. However, Nour says: "When I was in Britain and America for treatment, I was optimistic. I didn't worry about being blind. I had a proper education and was taught how to manage my life and even how to take care of a husband and children as well as myself. But here in Jordan, those who don't know me wonder why I dress well and how can I choose my own colours and attend to myself. I got my education because my father insisted that I have the best. He used to bring private teachers to make up for anything ing. But, the whole point is, that here in this country, if there was no money to provide for me, then I as a blind person wouldn't have had the same opportunities that I did. The advantages my father provided me with should have been available to me and all blind children

regardless of the financial state of our parents."

Nour is now a student in the last semester of her sen year at a university in Jordan. But not one professor ask how they could help this girl! Her standard is equal everyone else and her grades are excellent, neverthele she does need a little extra attention now and then. America a professor of mine used to read for me or someone else from class to read," says Nour. "He told that no student should have to pay extra money for education as a handicapped person. He also insisted the have to know how to manage my own life and tha shouldn't depend on a servant. He had confidence in that I could be like anybody else. I even received a diplo in how to take care of myself, how to walk and averages. But now I am lost and depressed and feel that have suppressed those senses that I had learned to develo I feel that people stare at me because of my disability a no one thinks of me as an individual, but rather somethi strange or a doll and not a product of myself. They a think that because of my father's money, I don't have worry about the future or the necessity of being indepe

But wait a minute! The most important factor is missi here! Nour may have a handicap but she can still be ve productive and should not be thought of as an item to hidden in a corner, felt sorry for, neglected or ignored. S goes on to say: "My attitude changed when I came back Jordan because of how people reacted to me. I am n treated by the majority as a human being. I used to be ve nice, sensitive and optimistic, but now I get eas. depressed, sometimes totally so. I intend to get r. Bachelor's degree in English Literature, then my M.A. a after that a PhD. So then what? I can't even trust t people who come to ask for my hand in marriage. I a obsessed with the fact that if someone marries me, then will become imprisoned by my darkness!"

People like Nour must be viewed by society not objects to be pitied, for no one with any integrity enjo wallowing in such misery. "I don't want anyone to fe sorry for me, but to understand me", Nour states. "I do: want people to avoid upsetting me, for then I really g

Are there facilities for the physically disabled in Jord nian public schools and universities and are professors as personnel taught how to deal with handicapped student. The answer is unfortunately, no. There are no facilities at in Nour's opinion, "the professors come to exams having mind their normal students, but they don't considstudents such as me. I need a little extra time for an exa. because of my situation. One professor even refused i have me in his class because he couldn't be bothered wit me! No one went out of his way to teach me my needs as handicapped person."

Our society needs to reevaluate how we perceive the handicapped. Such people must be integrated into the communities when they first begin school so they will lear how to cope with their environment and become produc tive members of the general public. We cannot ignore handicapped person as if he or she does not exist. We mu. go out of our way to help make their lives worthwhile an so enhance our own. After all, aren't we all our brother and sister's keeper and members of the same human race Some of us are more fortunate than others in one way o another, but the more fortunate should dedicate part c their lives, income or time to the less fortunate, helping to make our country and world a better place in which to live

Nour is a very intelligent girl who should be recognised and treated as such. She has much wisdom to share with these who pay attention to ber. Her courage is admirable and uplifting. It is indeed sad that she concludes, "the onl thing I know is that with my father's money. I can bu everything in this society, even the people!

3.500 Marines in Sou

1969 — Soviet Union p

its Far East army on alert

warning to China after fre

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Makarios escapes assassii

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shoot down his helicopter

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1991 - Forty foreign jou

nalists and two U.S. service

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diers are turned over to R

Cross officials in Baghdac

planned 14,000 U.N

peacekeeping force arrive

Tuesday, March 9

1992 - Commanders of

1876 - Turkish troops b

1905 — Japan defeats Ru

1942 — Japanese comple

conquest of Dutch Island

Java in Indonesia durii

revolt ends in Musul, Irac

in Ktima, Cyprus. 1969 — Lieutenant Gene

al Moneim Riad, chief of staff

Egypt's armed forces, killed

during Israeli-Egyptian gu

battle across Suez Canal.

of using chemical bombs

1987 — Iran accuses Ira

1989 - NATO and Wa

saw Pact open complex tall

in Vienna aimed at curbit

armed might built up in 4

years of East-West enmity

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1990 - Two Germanys b

1959 — Unsuccessful arm

1964 - Fighting breaks o

gin massacre of Bulgarian

sian forces at Mukden.

World War II.

Gulf war.

1990 - West German p.

1970 — Cyprus Preside

Vietnam.

border.

Belgrade.

### THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Thursday, March 4

1917 - German army begins major withdrawal on western front in World War

1945 - Soviet troops reach Baltic Sea in drive across Germany's province of Pomerania.

1952 - China accuses United States of using germ warfare in Korea. 1965 - Syria orders

nationalisation of nine oil companies, including affiliates of two U.S. concerns. 1970 - French submarine with 57 aboard is lost in

Mediterranean Sea off the Riviera. 1972 — Soviet Union signs agreement with Libya to jointly develop and refine Libyan oil, a pact seen as a pressure tactic against West-

em oil companies. 1977 - Earthquake devastates Bucharest and other towns in Romania, and death toll eventually reaches more than 1,000.

1988 - Sikh separatists kill dozens of Hindus at religious festival in Kari Sari, India.

Friday, March 5

1867 - Abortive Fenian uprising starts in Ireland. 1933 — Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party win greatest number of seats in German elections.

1960 — President Sukarno suspends Indonesia's parlia-

1962 - European extremists in Oran, Algeria, raid prison and kill several Muslim political prisoners. 1966 - British airliner hits

Japan's Mount Fuji, killing all 124 people aboard. 1970 — Nuclear nonprolif-

eration treaty goes into effect after 43 nations have deposited instruments of ratifica-

1974 — Ethiopia's leader Haile Selassie, confronted by continued unrest, agrees to constitutional convention to create new system of elected

democratic government.

1987 — Gulf war intensifies as Iraq fires six missiles into Tehran and its air force attacks other Iranian cities.

1990 - South Africa sends troops to Ciskei homeland to suppress mob attacks on factories and shops after military coup there ousted authoritarian president.

1991 — Iraq repeals its annexation of Kuwait and releases the last of its allied

Saturday, March 6

1965 - U.S. Defence Department announces that 500 Marines are being sent to South Vietnam - first U.S. ground combat troops committed to fighting against

Communist guerrillas.

1970 — Alexander Dubcek, former Czech Communist Party boss, is suspended from party.

1987 — Rudolf Hess, 92year-old former Hitler deputy and last imprisoned leader of Nazi Germany, is in British military hospital with

pneumonia. 1990 — Afghan Defence Minister Tanai leads coup attempt against government of Najibullah.

1991 — Iraqi troops appear to have crushed a rebellion in Basra and are reported to be moving on other southern cities in revolt.

Sunday, March 7

1935 - Restoration of

Saar to Germany marks beginning of German expan-

1936 Germany violates treaty of Versailles by occupying demilitarised zone in the Rhineland. 1941 — British troops in-

vade Italian occupied Abyssinia (Ethiopia) in World War 1945 - British 14th Army

enters Mandalay in Burma in World War II. 1951 - Premier Ali Razmara of Iran is assassinated. 1956 —Unrest, fomented

by Stalinist faction, breaks out in Soviet Georgia. 1968 - United States and Soviet Union pledge to protect all weaker nations from nuclear blackmail and aggres-

1977 — Saudi Arabia announces it will give one billion dollars in aid to black

1988 - British soldiers and police fatally shoot three Irish Republican Army guerrilias after they plant car bomb set to go off during military parade in British colony of Gibraltar.

1989 — China declares martial law in Tibetan capital of Lhasa following three days of anti-Chinese rioting.

Monday, March 8

1917 - Riots and strikes break out in St. Petersburg. marking start of Russian Revolution.

1949 — France recognises non-Communist Vietnam nationalists under Bao Dai as independent state within French union,

1954 - United States and Japan sign mutual defence agreement.

1957 - Ghana is admitted to United Nations.

1965 - United States lands

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NEW YORK - Miranda Richardson is beginning to learn about the prying game.

"People see me in Manhattan and come up to me in department stores." said the British actress, whose three current films include the surprise hit The Crying Game.

"In Greenwich Village, they go, 'great movie' in Saks, they say, sorry to do this to you, but can I just say something to you? And then they go away. I don't mind. It depends what mood you're in and how people do it. They've been very charming hère.'

Two years ago, she could have worn her name in golden letters around her neck and passed by undisturbed, at worst being asked if she was related to that other British star, Natasha Richardson. (She isn't).

It's surprising people can tell who she is now. No mat-

ter how many times you see The Crying Game, you'd have a hard time recognising Richardson without the black wig she wears through much of the story. You'd have to look closely, spot her large, wide set eyes, her small, straight nose or her pale,

heart shaped face. The press, with mixed feelings, has grown accustomed to that face. For the past couple of months, Richardson has been talking repeatedly about the trio of films that make her a sure bet to be heard from around Academy Award time: The Crying. Game. Damage and Enchanted April.

She's aiready won a Best Supporting Actress award for her work in all three movies from the New York Film Critics' Circle and a Best-Actress Golden Globe for Enchanted April.

"I'm in a different frame of mind than when I came before," said Richardson, 34. who has made it clear in the past she has little use for

publicity. "I feel more ready, more in control. Before, when I came, I felt I was being acted upon."

Her moods for this interview range from cordial to defensive. She wants it made clear she shouldn't be confused with the ruthless Irish Republican Army regular of The Crying Game or the high-strung nightclub bostess who murders her boyfriend in the 1985 release Dance With A Stranger, ber film debut.

The actress notes cheerfully "it's so nice to support work ;ou like," but not all her memories are happy ones. She has nothing but praise for The Crying Game and Enchanted April, but the tension on the set of Damage bas been widely publicised. especially her battles with costar Jeremy Irons and director Louis Malle.

Richardson, who plays Irons' betrayed wife, complained in a recent interview with the New York Times that the actor would "talk to Louis about what I should do as if I wasn't even in the room or I was a little girl or something." She also indicated Malle did not spend enough time with her.

"The process was quite difficult at times, except parodoxically the day you thought would be most difficult went like a dream, the highly emotional day. It was wonderful. it was almost fun," Richardson said with a nervous laugh.
"I was happy enough with

what I did in Damage. I'm still thinking about that film. It's not an enjoyable film. It's an uncomfortable film to watch. It makes me unclear whether it's good or not." But she spoke warmly of

Enchanted April director Mike Newell, who also made Dance With A Stranger, and was praised strongly by the director of The Crying Game, Neil Jordan.

"It was perfect," Jordan said of his working relationship with the actress. "Miranda is hugely intelligent and all she wants to know is the truth, which is all an actor or actress should really want to know from the director."

If Richardson has been tough on some directors, she must have been murder on her schoolteachers, remembering with a mischievous smile her days as a bright student easily bored. prone to disrupting her classes.

Born in Southport, just north of Liverpool, the actress described herself as a reserved, intense child, but also spoke of her ability to make people laugh. By age 10, she was a movie fan, a Saturday morning regular at the cinema.

"There used to be all that heroic stuff, Flash Gordon and all that," she recalled. "I used to watch John Wayne all the time. I was really into westerns. I used to be John Wayne. I didn't think 'Malefemale.' I think, 'I'm that part. I'm Rooster Cogburn. I'm Cromwell."

Her own films at times make you wonder how much she's changed. There's the lethal tilt of her head in Dance With A Stranger, the tongue-lashing she gives Irons at the end of Damage or the vicious slug to the jaw after Forest Whitaker curses her in The Crying Game.

"She is the most consummate actress I have come across," Jordan said. "She's braver than any actress I know. Miranda played a hugely unsympathetic woman in The Crying Game. She also has a range people in the United States aren't aware

"I think the reason I get asked to do something like that is that it seems I can go from naught to 60 in a short amount of lime," said Richardson, who also has worked extensively on stage and British television. "I think it's what I've been called on to do. It's something I can do. I don't think it's particularly me.



Miranda Richardson holds the Golden Glob she won for best performance by an actress it a motion picture musical or comedy at the 50th annual Golden Globe Awards. She wor for her performance in the film Enchanted April (AFP photo)

## Simpsons creator says cartoon show will get stranger

· SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Matt Groening sat near a Simpsons video game, de-

fending his cartoon progeny. "Some people say The Simpsons are bad for kids because Bart does bad things." said the creator of the hit TV programme seen in many lands.

"What's bad for children is not a character that's misbebaving, but bad storytelling, Mr. Groening, nattily attired in matching grey jacket and slacks and maroon T-shirt, said. "The message of The Simpsons is that there's a world out there of wild funny people baving a blast."

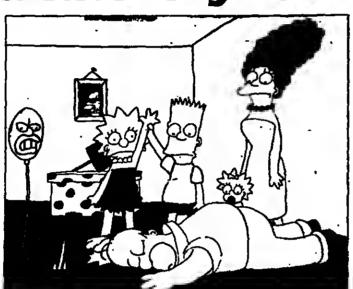
The Simpsons has become a success all over the world. broadcast in Britain, France, Japan, Australia, and Turkey.

with a journalist in Istanbul, who demanded to know why The Simpsons was so popular in Turkey," Mr. Groening told Reuters during a recent interview in San Francisco.

"Wherever fathers scream at their children, The Simpsons will be popular," said Mr. Groening, 38.

The Simpsons bas become the sitcom family of the 1990s, the latest in a long line of dysfunctional vet endearing TV families that includes The Honeymooners and an earlier prime-time cartoon. The Flintstones.

Mr. Groening was hardly the most likely candidate to author a network show. Prior to The Simpsons, he penned the counter-culture Life In Hell newspaper comic strip. starring a one-eared rabbit "Ligust did an interviews and a pair of identically



drawn men who may or may

not be lovers.

a cartoon family fit for prime It was while watching The Flintstones that Mr. Groen- "Luckily, there are now

ing first dreamed of creating

finally young enough to remember watching The Flintstones and The Jetsons, so they were able to have the nerve to put The Simpsons on the air," said the bearded. down-to-earth Groening.

television executives who are

The decision to air The Simpson does not seem like a risky one now. Mr. Groening and crew created a show for children and adults. A recent episode focused on a trip to a Disneyland-like park with a beer theme, in which Bart's sister Lisa goes on what appears to be a drug trip.

"The way family entertainment is defined traditionally is by baving no material that will offend any member of the family," Mr. Groening said. "What we tried to do was to define family entertainment in a new sense, to find things that different members of the family can relate to for different

"I like to think of The Simpsons as a ticking cultural time bomb. There are kids who love the show right now. But when they watch the show in 15 or 20 years, after they've been to college and taken a few literature courses, they're going to go, ob, now I know who Ayn Rand is, now I know about Through The Looking Glass,' what those cultural references were.

The programme is sprinkled with references to old

"We try to reward viewers for paying attention," Mr. Groening said. "If you pay attention, you're going to reap the benefits, because there's large amounts of little funny jokes.

Where most shows have the same opening for each episode. The Simpsons varies the opening every time. Bart writes "I will not..." on the chalkboard with a different ending to the sentence and Lisa's saxophone solo is always different.

The family members got their names from Mr. Groening's family, although Homer Simpson was also inspired by the character of the same name in the Nathaniel West classic Hollywood novel, The Day Of The Locust.

The show is also known for the celebrities who turn up, supplying their voices to car-

toon versions of themselves. In a recent show, Leonard Nimoy, Spock on the original

Star Trek, spoofed himsel After Homer saved the pa sengers on a monorail tra. that was about to crash, th Nimoy character, who too

no part in the rescue, said 'my work here is done." Celebrities are lining up appear on the show, M Groening said, noting the upcoming episodes will fe ture cameos by cartoon ve sions of Johnny Carson George Harrison and E. zabeth Taylor.

The Simpsons will continu to go where no sitcom fami has gone before, Mr. Groe ing promised.

"We're trying not only not repeat what other peop are doing, we're trying not repeat ourselves," he said. think you can count on the show getting even faster as

# Russia's leading artist enjoys the taste of success

By Clare Pedrick

ROME - As a young painter in Communist Moscow. Ivan Chujkov refused to compromise his art and churn out the so-called Socialist Realism style demanded by party bureaucrats. In those days, the only kind of painting tolerated by the Kremlin was one imbued with a strong dose of "Partinost," or party spirit. "I found this Social Realism ideologically unacceptable," said Chujkov. "It was not realist and it certainly was not socialist." Chujkov's unbending

vears of solitude as a painter. He eked out a paltry living as an art teacher, unable to show or sell any of his paintings, waiting for the inevitable knock on the door from the KGB. "The KGB came twice. It was a very unpleasant experience," said the Russian painter in a recent interview. The secret service officers did no physical harm to Chuikov. but they questioned him at length about his links with a Paris-published magazine dedicated to the work of underground Soviet artists. "They wanted to know how it was printed and how we got the



Having gained acclaim in the West, Ivan Chu-Roy can not keep up with all the requests for

photographs out, and all the time they made veiled threats about how I would lose my iob," he said. These days, Chujkov lives

in Western Europe - mostly Germany. Acclaimed as one of the two great modern Russian contemporary painters
— the other is his friend and erstwhile underground companion II'ya Kabakov -Chujkov is courted by gallery owners in New York, Paris and Rome. His work is beginning to appear in the world's major museums. He has more offers to exhibit than he can handle.

The contrast with his previous situation is dizzying. 'Up until 1987, I had never been out of my own country," said Chujkov, who is in Rome for a month-long show at the Italian capital's prestigious Sprovieri Gallery. "I had never sold any paintings. I had never had an exhibi-

tion." Chujkov, 57, is gifted with a strong sense of humour and irony, which helped bim live through the difficult years and carry on his painting even when there was no one to see his work. "Of course. not being able to show one's work was really a great handicap, because you can only really grow when you can compare yourself with your peers, not only in your own country, but also in other countries," he said.

After graduating from Moscow's Institute of Art in 1960, Chujkov worked in almost total isolation for 16 years. "It was very difficult," he recalls. "I did not produce a lot of work because there was no sense in producing." Chujkov survived by giving correspondence art courses. He earned a pittance, but his integrity remained intact. Later, he dabbled with officialdom when he took on commissions to paint the backdrops for factory clubs and collective farmers' clubs. It turned out to be more trouble than it was worth. "They

usually wanted local landscapes, so I had to go to the place to make sketches. Then the boss had to sign it. Then I had to go to Moscow and they had to sign it again. It was really very difficult."

In 1976, he was introduced into a circle of artists who also refused to paint politically correct scenes of peasants and party slogans. The painters drew strength from each other. They launched a magazine - called "A-YA," the first and last letters of the Russian alphabet - smuggling the words and pictures out to Paris, where it was printed. Chujkov began to paint more prolifically. Now he had an audience, however restricted. "An artist needs at least one or two spectators, and then be can paint," he said. "If you have none at all, then it is impossible.

Even so, it was to be another 10 years before "perestroika" was to enable Chujkov to taste the freedom he had hardly dared to hope for. In the mid-1980s, Western art collectors, favoured by the more relaxed political climate, took an interest in Soviet painters. "Before that, the only people who ever bought our paintings were the occasional diplomat — it was known as 'dip-art."' said Chujkov. "But they were not really interested in the works themselves. It was the idea of buying from underground

The big break In 1988 came the big break. Chujkov was invited to France and, even more remarkable, was allowed to go. "I will never forget it," he said. "It was fantastic. I can still remember everything about it." Chujkov spent two months in France, taking part in a workshop with artists from Germany, Italy and the U.S. The cultural exchange after years of isolation was intoxicating.

A year later, he was named artist in residence in Washington, D.C. In 1989 he had an exhibition in three German cities, followed by a contract with a gallery in Cologne. Chujkov's future had been cast and his reputation sealed as one of the new stars of the rich, ex-Communist cultural firmament. "Since then, I have worked and lived mainly in the West. mostly in Germany, but also in Italy and France," Chujkov said. "And J manage to stay in Russia for two to three months, too," he added, smiling. "For me, it's not so difficult because anyone who has foreign currency finds things easier." Chujkov's wife Galina, also an artist, generally travels with him. The couple has a 22-year-old daughter, Eugenia, who is studying art in Dusseldorf. Germany.

Refreshingly unpretentious, he does not seem to care about the hero status demanded and received by some of his Western contemporaries. "There is great interest in Russian art at the moment, and Chujkov is one of the two most highly acclaimed Russian painters," said Luigi Scialanga, curator of Chujkov's exhibition at Sprovieri Gallery. "Their paintings show great optimism - Chujkov's work is full of light and energy. It doesn't have the cynicism of a lot of American and West European art. And the painters themselves represent a fresh new voice.

Their paintings can still be had at realistic prices, which has boosted demand: "A Chujkov canvas measuring 180 cm by 130 cm recently fetched DM 50,000 (about \$29,400) in Cologne. "My work fetches a lot of money. but I am not rich," said the artist, "though, of course, I am rich by Russian standards.

Chujkov describes his paintings as a style that ex-



Russian painter Ivan Chujkov refused to compromise his art to churn out the Socialist Realism style demanded by the Sovie

bureaucrats plores the relationship between reality and art. "I am interested in the different ways of presenting reality, he said. He mixed different styles on the same canvas, marrying a fragment of an old master with a Matisse. perhaps adding a detail from a picture postcard, a political poster or a road sign. Fragmentation is an important theme in Chujkov's paintings, a factor that may be linked to his own background, albeit subliminally. His work is not overtly political, although he recognises, with hindsight, that the political events he lived through have influenced his paintings at a subconscious level. "I did a lot of works in Russia. never thinking of a political or social reality. But now I see that in almost all of them my feelings about the political situation are reflected."

Chujkov points to a series of paintings called Windows, which he did while still living in Moscow. "Now I see those paintings were subconsciously connected to the impossibil-

ity of getting out of the country," he explained. Freedom has its price and, in Chujkov's case, that price is a place to call his own and the time to enjoy his new-found liberty. He confesses to being exhausted by the long round of travel. "I am very tired of not having a permanent ptace to live," he said. His hectic programme includes stops in Germany immediately after he leaves Rome, followed by a spell in Paris, where he is taking part in a group exhibition, then Moscow and Cologne, where he will be preparing for another major show.

Occasionally, he bumps into one of his former artist friends from the old days when they had to meet on the sly and look at each other's works in secret. If he has one regret, it is for that sense of mutual support and camaraderie. "Everyone was in the same situation. Everyone supported each other. There was no envy. There was a feeling of common purpose. which was really great. Now

that has gone. Everyone h gone their separate ways. There have been other su prises about life in the We 'I wouldn't say I was d appointed. That's not the right word. But the We turned out to be not exact what we dreamed about said Chujkov. He admits being shocked by the difficu ties facing young artists, evi highly talented ones. "For (Russians), it was muc easier, because it was t time of Gorbachev and h man rights and that highligh ed us and our work as artis But it's much harder for t younger ones ...for exampl the French in France. Maki the first break is almost in possible. You need luck, co nections and acquaintances "But I see a lot of good a

here, and I have the oppo tunity to live off my art," added. "I did not think th could happen. I was que prepared to live my whole I in my country without havi the possibility ever to lea or show my work" - Wor News Link.

By Jude Webber

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JBF me Reuter
LONDON — Hopes that a new treatment could be on the way for the incurable disease multiple sclerosis (MS) have been raised by a Hollywood movie drawing crowds in the United States.

A British company featured in the film Lorenzo's Oil for developing a product to treat a rare genetic illness says it is now working on one that could be a breakthrough

The company, Croda International Plc, is cautious. stressing the diseases are very different, as is the proposed new treatment.

Croda also says that research is still at an early stage and it will not begin clinical trials for several months.

But charity workers fighting to fund research into MS. a disease of the central nervous system which can be fatal, have welcomed the new research and the publicity Lorenzo's Oil has generated for their cause.

"It's raised people's awarenesss ...it's been verv.

very positive for us," said Ann Aronowitz, honorary secretary of the British Trust for the Myelin Project, which funds research into how damage caused by a diseases fo the central nervous system can be repaired.

Lorenzo's Oil. starting Niek Nolte and Susan Sarandon, tells the true story of an American couple who find out their six-year-old son, Lorenzo, is suffering from a rare genetic disease and has only two years to live.

Lorenzo has adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD), which, like MS, attacks the fatty myelin sheath surrounding nerve fibres and stops signals being transmitted to other parts of the body.

A damaged myelin sheath can result in paralysis, blind-ness, loss of speech and most bodily functions. In MS the immune system attacks itself and patients can suffer chronic relapses.

Lorenzo's Oil tells how Lorenzo's parents, Augusto and Michaela Odone researched the disease. They concluded that a build-up of un-

usual body fats caused hy ALD could be counteracted by giving him a special edible

They contacted Croda. which came up with a formula that worked for Lorenzo. He remains disabled, but his parents say his life has been saved and the progression of ALD stopped.

Some parents of ALD sufferers are reported to be disillusioned that the "wounder oil" which gave the film a happy ending does not work for everyone. And MS experts are sceptical about how successful Croda's MS research will prove.

The concept of lipid abnormality is not new. We have researched it before and found it to be wanting." neurologist Dr. David Bates, who heads the Multiple Sclerosis Society's Medical Research Advisory Committee, told Reuters.

Dr. Bates said Croda's thesis was "worthy of investigation" hut there was no scientific evidence that it would succeed.

The Multiple Selerosis

Society, Britain's major MS charity, is giving no financial support to Croda.

It is paying more than £100,000 (\$142,000) as part of a three-nation project testing a manufactured antibody on humans to see if scarring on the myelin sheath can be repaired.

Preliminary results from trials in the Netherlands, Australia and Britain are expected early next year.

MS patients are sometimes prescribed steroids but there are no treatments available guaranteed to give long-term

 John Simkins, a manager at MS Charity Action and Research into Multiple Sclerosis (ARMS), said Croda's research was good news if it resulted in a treatment with no side-effects.
ARMS is also interested in

special diets to help MS suf-ferers and Mr. Simkins said he thought MS research was now "in a phase of considerable potentials".

Other promising avenues include a compound de-

veloped by German pharmaceuticals group Schering AG in the United States which is currently pending approval by the Food and Drugs Administration.

The compound acts on the immune system to cut time between attacks and a Schering spokeswoman said it looked very promising. But she said it would take time to produce and market the compound on a large scale.

The Multiple Sclerosis Society says it will spend the £2 million (\$2.8 million) it hopes to raise from the recent record-breaking Antarctic crossing by British explorers Sir Ranulph Fiennes and Dr. Michael Stroud on MS research.

But study into the stillpoorly understood disease is a race against time, said the Myelin Project's Ann Aronowitz, whose brother is one of Britain's estimated 80,000 MS sufferers. She was disappointed that

a Croda MS oil would not be on the market for several tists in the United States. years and described the



Lorenzo (Zack O'Mailey Gr Michaela (Susan Sarandon) and Augusto Odone (Nick Noite) have - burg) in director George Mil

Lorenzo's Oil birthday party for their son which has some 250,000 MS 1993 at a cost of \$3 Myelin Project, set up in 1989 sufferers, had successfully reby Lorenzo's father to speed

up research into replacing damaged myelin, as "much more radical". Ms. Aronowitz said scien-

placed myelin in the spinal cords of animals. The next step is human trials which, according to Augusto Odone. could begin by the end of

"We're in a hurry Aronowitz said. "We want the Nobel Prize want our people to was

# Scientist links kidneys to sudden infant death syndrome

LONDON (AP) - A severe kidney disorder may explain many cases of sudden infant death syndrome, but the finding does not yet point the way to prevention, a British doctor said.

Dr. Dick Van Velzen, pro-fessor of fetal and infant pathology at Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital, studied 24 infants who died of no known cause in the first six months of life. He found two thirds had a deficiency of Nephrons, the tiny filters within the kidney.

He said this may leave the infants vulnerable to a range

The finding does not offer immediate hope for preven-

"It explains why these children die and why they are vulnerable to things normal children don't die from." Dr. Van Velzen said.

The study will be published in the May issue of Pediatric Pathology, an international scientific journal.

"The merit in the study is that they have looked at an aspect of sudden infant death syndrome that has not been studied before, but it's still very preliminary," said Dr. pathologist at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago and editor-in-chief of Pediatric Pathology.

"If the findings are con-firmed, it can lead, in due course, to prevention," said Dr. Crussi.

Other experts did not want to comment before reading the study.

Using a sophisticated. three dimensional microscope, Dr. Van Velzen examined the kidneys of 24 infants who died suddenly. He said two-thirds of the children had less than half the

normal number of Nephrons. the tiny filters that make up the kidney.

"It's like having one kidney," said Dr. Van Velzen. Although people can survive with one kidney. Dr. Van Velzen suspects that infants need both kidneys to survive ordinary infections,

He suspects the first half year is a vulnerable period. during which the Nephrons are developing. Bahies with only half the normal number would be more likely to build up toxins or get very ill from ordinary infections.

## Balding men, take good care of your hearts, doctors say

CHICAGO (AP) - Men losing their hair should look to their hearts.

A study found 21 to 55 year old men who were severely bald at the top were three times more likely to suffer heart attacks than those with full heads of hair.

Men with mild to moderate baldness on top had about a 1½ times greater risk. Men with receding hairlines —
even severely receding ones
— hut no baldness on top faced no increased risk.

Findings of the study of 665 male heart attack victims and ) 772 similar men who had suffered no heart attacks appear in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA).

The research was funded by the Upjohn Co., which makes a treatment for bald-

The hypothesis that baldness may predict coronary artery disease goes back

more than 25 years, noted the authors, led by Dr. Samuel M. Lesko of Boston University School of Medicine's School of Public Health.

The reason for the apparent link remains unknown. they said. They speculated that a male hormone known to be necessary for baldness may have a role in suppressing "good" HDL cholester-ol, which protects the heart. Eight previous studies have

explored whether the association truly exists. Researchers who reviewed all eight concluded in 1990-that "a small risk of coronary disease due to baldness may exist, but this risk is smaller than that of well known risk factors such as smoking and hypertension," said an editorial in

The editorial's authors, Drs. Peter W. F. Wilson and William D. Kannel of the Framingham Heart Study, a landmark study in Framingham, Mass., said some balding men may want to take extra precautions.

"Persons who belong to families with an increased risk of premature coronary heart disease are advised to scrupulously control known risk factors such as elevated cholesterol levels, smoking and elevated blood pressure levels, and it also seems prudent for bald men to follow more rigorously similar regimens," Dr. Wilson and Dr.

Kannel wrote. Dr. Richard J. Carroll, a preventive cardiologist at Loyola University Medical Centre, said men who are losing hair on top should view it "more as a marker for a potential problem rather than as a potential problem itself."

Such men should be especially sure to get themselves screened for high cholesterol, high blood pressure and other traits that might increase their likelihood of de-

Smoking more deadly than

veloping heart disease. Dr. Carroll, who as no volved in the new stud

Authors of the study trolled statistically for possible effects of sm and hypertension, as w age, family history, al consumption, exercise and other traits associ with heart risk.

The link between ba and heart attacks still they found.

But Dr. Lesko said unknown whether resul applicable to men over. of to racial minority bers, who comprised on out 5 per cent of sub

Presumably Upjoi most interested in men likely to use its baldnes 55. Dr. Lesko said.

All the doctors said research will be need make sure the link exis if it does, to find out

### **WEEKEND CROSSWORD**

### CONNECTIONS By Harvey Chow

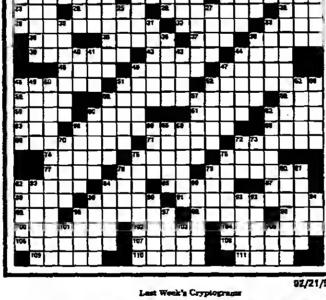
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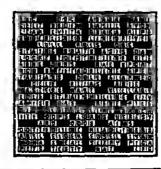
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-By Eugene T. Malesk





### previously suspected — study LONDON (AP) — Smokers are three times more likely to die before the age of 70 than

non-smokers, scientists said in announcing the latest results of a 40-year study of the health of British doctors. "These new results are much more extreme than had

been suggested by the 20year follow up when premature death was 'only' twice as common in smokers as in non-smokers," said Sir Richard Doll, who identified the link between smoking and lung cancer.

Scientists said the gap has widened because nonsmokers have a longer life expectancy today than 20 years ago. Cigarette smokers are not living longer, said Sir Richard, an investigator at the Imperial Cancer Research Centre at Oxford Uni-

Death due to heart disease has dropped by 30 per cent among non-smokers, but has not dropped among smokers. said Sir Richard speaking at the Royal Society, Britain's

organisation. While cigarette smokers

probably shared in some of the improvements that affected non-smokers, such as coronary hypass surgery. hypotensive surgery, and dietary change, "the benefits have been counterbalanced by the maturing of the smok-ing epidemic." said Sir Richard. The report includes a grea-

ter proportion of men who started smoking when they were teenagers. The earlier analysis, after 20 years, included doctors who started smoking later in life because smoking had not been fashionable when they were teenagers. The results are based on

the analysis of 34.439 male doctors who have been traced for 40 years. The study is world renowned for providing some of the earliest evidence linking smoking and lung cancer.

Richard Peto, a statistician

most prestigious scientific who works with Sir Richard, said the findings were based on 668 deaths within the study group in the last 20

> Among men between the ages of 44 and 70, 1.69 per cent of smokers died annually compared to 0.57 per cent of non-smokers, Mr. Peto said. In the 45-54 age group. 1. 14 per cent of smokers died

> each year compared to 0.38 per cent of smokers. For men aged 55-64. 2.25 per cent of smokers died each year compared to 0.77 per cent of non-smokers. Mr. Peto said. The study included doctors only because investigators

> believed they would be more apt to respond accurately to health surveys. It was limited to men because of the preponderance of male doctors when the study began.

The study shows that only three of every 200 men who smoke at least 25 cigarettes a day from the age of 35 onwards will live to the age of

of every 200 light st and thirty out of 200 smokers will survive age of 90. said Sir Ri

Judith Hatton. smok searcher for Forest, Fr Organisation for the R Enjoy Smoking Tobacc led the study a "gross

She said the rates of ing in Japan are the highest in the world. Japanese have the long expectancy. Greece, w most smokers per car the world, has the cancer rate in Europ women and the second for men. she said.

Several large healt veys have associated cit smoking with an ac cancers, including the the lip. mouth. ph esophagus, pancreas, l and cervix.

In this study, smoke, seven times more likely from cancer than

smokers. 

## Aspirin 'appears to protect' against colon cancer

WASHINGTON (R) - Regular doses of Aspirin appear to protect against growth of colon and rectal cancers. Swedish and American researchers have reported.

Rheumatoid arthritis patients in Sweden who regularly used Aspirin and other non-steriod anti-inflamatory drugs were found to be 30 to

40 per cent less likely to have cancers of the large bowel than the general population. according to the study published in the Journal of the (U.S.) National Cancer Institute.

In addition to reduced incidence of colon and rectal cancers, the female arthritis patients were found to have

reduced risk for other digestive cancers such as stomach. oesophagus, gall hladder, pancreas, and breast cancer.

Dr. Clark Heath of the American Cancer Society said it is too soon to recommend doses of Aspirin to reduce the risk of cancer, but he was encouraged because

this study confirmed findings from previous A large trial involv

tients randomly selec be on different dosage drugs will be needed b can be said Aspirin p or slows the growth orectal polyps, which become cancerous.



His Majesty King Hussein Monday visited the General Headquar-ters of the Armed Forces where he was received by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb and his assistants. King Hussein had a meeting with Field Marshal Abn Taleb and discussed with him issues of concern to the Armed Forces (File photo)

### King expresses pride in **Jordan's Armed Forces**

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb, thanking him for his cable of good wishes on the 37th anniversary of the Arabisation of the Jordanian Armed Forces

Expressing pride in the Armed Forces, King Hussein said that they have proved their capability in handling weapons in defence of the

Noting that the Armed Forces have lived up to the nation's expectations, the King said they have served under United Nations umbrella in helping to keep world peace and as true ambassadors of Jordan to different countries.

The King expressed hope that he would continue his meeting with various Armed Forces' units at their positions in different parts of the

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#### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Princess Basma meets with ESCWA head

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday received in her office at the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF) Executive Secretary of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission on Western Asia (ESCWA) Sabah Bakjaji. Princess Basma and Dr. Bakjaji reviewed scopes of cooperation between QAF and ESCWA in social fields, with special attention paid to women's issues. At the outset of the meeting, the Princess briefed Dr. Bakjaji on the activities of QAF in stimulating the role of women in the local society.

#### Cabinet to set up court in Jizah

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Monday decided to set up a court in the Jizah district, south of Amman. The court will serve citizens in the district and the surrounding area.

### **Ensour meets with Sudani, Brazilian envoys**

AMMAN (Petra) - Industry and Trade Minister Abdullah Ensour Monday received at the ministry, in separate meetings, the ambassadors of Sudan and Brazil. Dr. Ensour discussed with the two ambassadors bilateral relations between Jordan and their respective countries and ways of enhancing them.

### Senate reconsiders illegal acquisition of wealth law

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parnament will meet Tuesday to discuss the 1990 draft law on the illegal acquisition of wealth. The draft law which was alruady passed by the Senate and returned to the Lower House for review, was referred again to the Senate. If the Senate insists on its stand on several articles of the law, the Senate and the Lower House will have to meet in a joint session to vote on the law.

### Sheikh Tamimi opens Islamic book exhibit

ZARQA (Petra) — Awqaf and Islamie Affairs Minister Izzeddin Al Khatih Al Tamimi Monday met with mosque preachers and imams at the Zarqa Awqaf Department. Sheikh Tamimi urged the imams and preachers to follow the example of Prophet Mahammad's Companions (Sahaha) and to the companions (Sahaha) and to the companions (Sahaha) and the compan Mohammad's Companions (Sahaba) and to teach citizens the principles of their religion. Later in the day, the minister opened an Islamic book exhibition at the Men's Islamic Cultural Centre. The week-long exhibition includes 3,000 titles on various subjects.

### Dentists to hold conference in April

AMMAN (Petra) — The 11th Jordanian Dentistry Conference will open at the Royal Cultural Centre April 14 with the participation of about 600 dentists from Jordan, Arah and foreign countries. President of the Jordan Dentists Association (JDA) Mohammad Obeidat said the three-day conference will discuss 45 working papers on various dental issues. A seminar on Aids will also be held as part of the conference's activities at which four professors from Baghdad University will speak, Dr. Obeidat said.

### New engineers swear in to trade association

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 120 new engineers were sworn in Monday before President of the Jordan Engineers Assocaition (JEA) Husni Abu Ghaida as members in the association. Mr. Abu Ghaida urged them to respect the ethics and laws of their profession and to perservere in serving their country.

### Al-Bashir to limit visitors to 2 per patient

AMMAN (Petra) - Al Bashir Government Hospital in Amman plans to issue cards for patients staying at the hospital, entitling them to receive only two visitors at a time. Hospital Director Makram Nusheiwat said this measure will be initiated at the surgeries department in order to keep patients comfortable and to enable doctors and nurses to provide the best health care possible.

### irbid pulls street vendors from dountown

IRBID (Petra) — Irbid municipality Monday launched a crack-down on street vendors in the city of Irbid to prevent them from blocking sidewalks. Street vendors were not allowed to stay in the city's downtown area which witnessed serious traffic jams in the

### Irbid, Madaba charity panels discuss campaign

IRBID (Petra) - The Irbid Charity Campaign Committee met Monday under the chairmanship of Irbid Governor Fayez Al Abbadi and discussed means to bring the campaign to a successful end. The meeting decided to set up a committee which comprises members of the Princess Basma Social Development Centre in Irbid to supervise the campaign. In Madaba, District Governor Musleh Al Tarawneh Monday met with representatives of the Madaba Charity Campaign Committee and discussed with them their plans for the campaign, due to start in Madaba Tuesday.

### Pontifical mission plans multi-million projects for refugees, needy jects benefiting the refugees and

Corcoran explained.

nisations.

ment for their work, the reverend

said. He added that this approach will help to free them from the

dependency on charitable orga-

such income-generating projects and to partly or wholly finance

infrastructure projects such as sewerage iostallation in the

Bakaa refugee camp," Father Corcoran said.

fical Mission for Palestine en-

courages and supports projects

and programmes of emergency

assistance and relief, care and

rehabilitation, education and hu-

man development collaboration

and services to other agencies, the reverend said. He said the

PMP's operations are mainly

funded by humanitarian organisa-

Established in 1949, the Ponti-

"We have a budget of several million dollars to be spent oo

By Elia Nasrallah Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In line with its goals to provide help to Palestinian refugees and the needy people in Jordan, the Amman office of the Pontifical Mission for Palestine (PMP) is preparing to carry out multi-million dollar projects in the Kingdom.

The newly-appointed director of the PMP office, the Reverend Willam D. Corcoran, told the Jordan Times Monday that he bas beeo discussing with the United Nations Relief and Works Agen-cy for Palestine refugees (UN-RWA) and the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestician Affairs ways of chaonelling PMP's financial and in-kind

"Officials at the Department of Palestinian Affairs, particularly Mr. Adel Irsheid, the department director, welcomed the idea of our implementing projects in Jordan and provided me with a list of priorities," Father Corcoran said.
"The financially strapped UN-RWA also welcomed the move,

but we are following up more talks with the two sides and conducting feasibility studies on the projected schemes," he added.
The implementation of pro-

tions io Japan, Germany Switzerland Canada, the U.S.

## Municipality to bring cable cars to Amman, but critics favour preserving antiquities

By Marion Boulby Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Construction of Jordan's first cable cars will begin early April in King Abdullah Gardens amidst criticism that the project will do nothing for the character of Amman or the tourist industry.

The JD 1 million municipality project contracted with the French company POMAGAWS-KI, SA is funded by Amman sman Wadi, Zwaideh.

The 220-metre-long, 18-cablecar system will extend from the Wadi Sagra colonnade to the bill top restaorant of King Abdullah Gardens, reaching a height of 40

Construction will last approximately 2 months, employing about 50 Jordanians. Approximately 70 jobs will be created for day-to-day operations.

This will be one of the most advanced cable car systems io the Middle East, according to Mr. Zwaideh, who said that POMA-GAWSKI, SA "are one of the best pioneers of able car systems in the world." The company is famous for huilding the cable cars at China's Great Wall.

We want everyone to try the cable car' Mr. Zwaideh said. The charge for a one-way trip will be around JD 1 and there may be a

"The project is something to serve the people and they will love it" according to Ra'ad Al Bakri, Amman Muoicipality Director of Real Estate and Investment and the architect responsible for the project.

The cable cars will offer an added attraction to the already popular King Abdullah Gardens saving people the 200-step climb up to the restaurant and providing a beautiful view, Mr. Al Bakri said.

He thinks the project will attract tourists because of the

"A lot of people who come from outside come to Amman because of the geography," he said. "When you go in the cable car you can see the beauty of Amman huildings with their white stone, the beauty of some areas in west Amman. Abdoun is like Beverly Hills for sure. They can go to the point where they can see the best areas of the capital of Jordan and this will attract a lot of people."

Amman architect Ammar Khammasb did not agree that the cable cars will help tourism.

"Would anyone come from the States for a cable car?" he asked, adding that the view would only be of "ugly roofs."

"This municipality project is another example of the mentality of hig schemes that really come out of no cultural, historical, social or anthropological background," Mr. Khammash said, arguing that if Jordan wants to promote its tourism industry it should concentrate on projects which enhance its cultural and historical beritage especially at a time wheo the country is trying to boost a pan-Arab and pan-Islamic identity and His Majesty King Hussein is renovating the

Jordanians especially lack a vision of their capital, Mr. Khammash said. The municipality should focus on projects such as reconstruction of the Ummayad Palace, which revive the old city ceotre of Amman.

The old, real city of Amman, the centre of the city is rotting and falling apart, we have not arrived at at a position of respecting our downtown," be said.

Mr. Khammash contrasted the cable car project unfavourably with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded project to restore the Temple of Hercules.

He commented "it is unfortunate that USAID puts money into the Citadel project which gives us something of oor own while the council puts money into cable cars."

Mr. Al Bakri respooded that the government was already doing a lot to revive Jordan's Arabie and Islamic heritage. He also said the municipality had "solved a lot of problems" in the downtowo area since 1981, adding traffic lights, widening streets and creating a one-way

The municipality is not opposed to projects in downtown, according to Mr. Al Bakri who said "our doors are open to any person from the private sector who would like to invest in any project in downtown or io any part of Amman."
The revival of Amman's histor-

ical sites is the responsibility of the government and not the private sector, according to Mr.

Downtown locations including the Citadel, were rejected as cable car sites for investment reasons. King Abdullah Gardens was considered a better location because it already has restaurants and other facilities and attracts about 750,000 people a year.
As a private investor I would

look number one, where the company cao be paid hack in investment," Mr. Zwaideh said. "I am talking about investment itself, I am not talking about how to revive the history of old places."

Boying the cahle cars is "only pumping foreign currency out of the country" and doing nothing to alleviate Jordan's foreign debt. Mr. Khammash argued in a further criticism of the project.

Mr. Al Bakri responded that the cable cars project is encouraging Jordanian business investment at home rather than ootside the country.

"I am sure that a lot of businessmeo in Jordan have their mooey outside Jordan. They are making profits outside Jordan. As a municipality where we can help those people to bring their foreign currency and make business bere it gives them good profits and makes Jordan good profits too."

"I don't boy that at all," said Mr. Khammash.

"This is not investment inside the country. Are we really iovesting in Jordan when we buy Mercedes cars? The municipality does not see the business of labourintensive, local made items."

The inauguration of the cable cars is scheduled for June.



## House endorses teachers union draft law

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament Judiciary Committee Monday endorsed a teachers union draft law as was referred to Parliament by the government with minor amend-

In announcing the move, Committee Chairman Salim Al Zoubi said the amendments were introduced to the draft following careful scrutiny of its provisions on the part of committee members. He said the teachers union was of paramount importance since it

can enhance the process of democracy in Jordan. Teachers constitute ooe of the largest sectors in the Jordanian society, he added.

Jordanian teachers, said Mr. Zoubi, have been seeking unsuc-cessfully to create a union for the last few decades.

The Judiciary Committee has assigned a special session to discuss the draft law, and it is hoped that the final version will be endorsed by both Houses of Parliament and promptly enforced, Mr. Zoobi added.

The amendments concern the union's terms of reference, activities, composition of its board and union elections, the committee chairman explained.

The creation of the teachers law is in line with the resolutions of the 1987 National Education Conference in Jordan.

Another resolution allowed for the creation of teachers clobs last November, and His Royal Highness Crowo Prince Hassan opened the first club in Amman.

### March income tax filers to get 2%

### discount

AMMAN (Petra) - The Income Tax Department Monday began offeriog a two per cent discount to individuals who file their 1993 income tax statements during March.

The department urged citizens to file their statements as soon as possible, saying the deadline for presenting the statement will be April 30.

The department said indi-

viduals who present their statement after the deadline will be required to pay a fine ranging between two and 24 per cent. Early filers who presented their

income statements during January received a 4-6 per cent discount from the Tax Department.

### **WHAT'S GOING** ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### **EXHIBITIONS**

★ Exhibition of paintings by four Arab artists from the United States — Ghada Jamal, Helen Khal, Suha Noursi and Afaf Zurayk at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery in Jabal Amman, between the First and Second Circles (10 a.m.- 4 p.m.)

Poster exhibition entitled "The British Film Makers of the 80s" at the British Council

k Islamic book exhibition at the Islamic Centre in Zarqa.

# Fewer ships diverted from Aqaba destination, but importers still suffering

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Cases of cargo vessels turned away from proceeding to Agaba by the enforcers of the international sanctions against Iraq have gone down, but the volume of goods being discharged at the Red Sea port remains considerably low compared with the figures prior to the Gulf crisis of 1990, shipping officials said

The last vessel to be inter-cepted and diverted was the Cyprus-registered Evangelica III. which was carrying general cargo for Jordanian importers, said Sufian Mheisan, an official of the Jordanian Shipping Agents Association (JSAA).

The Evangelica III, which was heading towards Agaba after calling at the Libyan port of Tripoli, was intercepted on Feb. 2. After a few days of waiting in the high seas, the vessel proceeded to Port Suez, where it restowed containers to allow the embargo enforcers access to the cargo before returning to Aqaba.

The ship was inspected at the Tiran Straits at the mouth of the Gulf of Aqaba by the Australian unit of the American-led multinational force in the Red Sea; containers were opened and resealed and cargo manifests and other documents were inspected before

the ship was allowed to proceed to Aqaba on Feb. 15, Mr.

Three ships were diverted to Port Suez or other Red Sea ports for restowing of cargo to allow inspectors access to the holds during January, but no cargo was refused entry, be said.

The high seas inspection forces, deployed mostly in the Red Sea and the Gulf, have intercepted about 16,000 vessels since August 1990, when the United Nations Security Council imposed sweeping trade sanctions against Iraq following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

About 4,000 ships were boarded and nearly 400 were diverted from proceeding to

Under a new arrangement which went into force last month, passenger ships are exempt from inspection if the details of the voyage are given to the sanction enforcers 60 days in advance. Mr. Mheisan said the relatively low number of ships being di-

verted io recent months and of cases where cargo was refused eotry to Agaba is the direct result of shipowners, exporters and importers being aware of and abiding by the inspection regulations. general, shipowners and cargo handlers are now familiar

with the guidelines for inspection

by the enforcers of the sanctions

of origin." Mr. Mheisan told the Jordan Times.

"But the importers are paying the price for the sanctions enforcement in terms of higher freight charged by the shipown-

he said. Mr. Mheisan explained that since the enforcement guidelines call for access to every piece of cargo aboard the ships, the shipowners were unable to utilise the full cargo space. As such, they levy higher freight charges to make up for the lost cargo space.

In the meantime, the port of Agaha continues to suffer from a dramatic plunge in the volume of cargo passing through the port. In January 1993, the port handled 111,500 tonnes of "transit cargo" - mostly bound for Iraq - compared with 511,000 tonnes

during the same period in 1989. Jordan-based Iraqi businessmen have said that in view of the striogent measures adopted by the sanction enforcers in the Red Sea, Iraqi importers are increasingly turning to Turkish

There is very little, if any at all, international inspection of Iraqbound goods through Turkey.

Trucks ferry the goods unloaded overland to Iraq from Turkish ports and return with cheap Iraqi fuel for sale at high profits in the local market. against Iraq and are adopting the husinessmen say.

## Local experts to supervise power link-up in Yemen

member team of technicians and specialists in electric power generation and distribution from the Jordan Electricity Aothority (JEA) left for Yemen Monday to supervise the implementation of a project linking electric networks between Taez and Adeo.

This is a vital project for economic development of Yemen, said Ayed Abu Snobar, head of JEA's techoical Designs Department. Mr. Ahu Snobar, who is also director of the \$1.5 million Yemen project said the Taez-Aden

important energy projects ever undertaken by JEA in Yemen. JEA Director Mohammad Arafeb said JEA carried out

linkage was one of the most

tion, including the joint production of power metres and power distributioo transformers. Mr. Aho Snobar explained that the Taez-Aden project will be implemented in three stages. The

works. The second involves the purchase of materials for the linkage, and third, the implementa-tion of the engineering part of the several projects in Yemen related to power generation and distribu-When completed the linkage

mer station and distribution net-

will enable more Yemenis to subscribe to the oational electricity corporation, Mr. Abu Snobar Yemen and Jordan have

cooperated in energy and mineral resources projects over the last

### **PSD** lists 49 crimes in 1 week

AMMAN (J.T.) — Between Feb. 20 and 26, 49 crimes of various types were committed in Jordan, and 23 of those have already been solved, according to the Public Security Department (PSD) Monday. A PSD statistical bulletin said

the crimes involved one murder; ooe attempted murder; two assaults oo persons resulting io scrious injury; 10 robberies; nine thefts by juvenile delinquents; six smuggling cases; four car thefts; one suicide; two attempted suicides; one rape, and one case of a stray bullet hitting a citizen. The bulletin also reported an accidental land mine blast at the

vide training to municipalities border area. The PSD said that robberies and thefts, including car thefts topped the list of crimes.

The bulletin described one case in which a woman reported the disappearance of her car after parking it beside a grocery store and leaving the engine running and the door unlocked.

The bulletin attributed many of the thefts and robberies to negligence on the part of citizens. Smuggled items ranged from sheep to drugs, the hulletin said, adding that Jordan's ceotral geographical location was being exploited by drug traffickers.

The bulletin said that although

suicide cases are rare in Jordan, they do occur when the results of University or school examinations are announced or when family or clan feuds erupt. It also said that some suicides involved individuals with mental disorders. Meanwhile, a report in Al Ra'i

Arabic daily Monday said that Abdul Hamid Khalaileh, 30, was murdered at his home at Bakaa camp about midnight Sunday. Security sources were quoted

as saying that the victim had been a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) - General Command of Ahmad Jibril. They said the assailants bad stormed Mr. Khalaileh's home at night and strang-led him to death after binding his hands and legs.

The assailants placed the victim's body in a sack and dumped it on the side of a road leading to Bakaa, according to the paper's report.

It said police were searching the Bakaa area Sunday and Monday for suspects.

### first entails managing tenders for the construction of the transfor-Ministry plans to supply equipment to municipal joint services councils

AMMAN (Petra) - Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul Razzak Tubeishat Monday said the ministry and its affiliated department were planning to supply machinery and equipment to mooicipal councils and joint services councils in Jordan.

The ministry is also conducting a comprehensive study on the financial and other conditions of each of the monicipalities prior to deciding on measures to promote their : services, 'Dr. Tubeishat said. As part of the plan, the ministry is establishing centres to pro-

staff in Amman, Irbid and Karak in cooperation with the Cities and Villages Development Bank, which promised to provide soft loans to municipalities. The aim of these measures,

said the minister, was to enable muoicipalities to serve as independeot units providing integrated services to the local communities Jordan presently has 54 joint services councils which do not



Abdul Razzak Tubeishat

He said the joint councils' services include mainteoance on machinery and equipment, road repairs, huilding schools, creating post offices, and social services. The ministry spent JD 1 milhon on the establishment of units

such services to the clusters of villages in each district or governorate, the minister added. Joint councils' services also en-

in the joint councils to provide

tail creating cemeteries, slaughter substitute the work of municipal houses and garbage dumping sites for neighbouring towns and vil-lages, Dr. Tubeishat said. councils, but rather complement them, Dr. Tubeishat explained.

#### JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY Announcement of Tender Availability for

Supply and Installation Two (2) Gas Turbines

**Tender No. 99/92** Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the availability of tender document, No. 99/92 for purchase as of March, 2nd

The tender consists of supply, erection, testing, commissioning and guaranteeing of two (2) gas turbine power generation units each of 30 to 40 MW capacity with generators and auxiliaries. The tender contains an option for the supply and installation of a third gas turbine unit.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the Secretary of JEA Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time, 7th June 1993 at the JEA offices in Amman.

Tander documents are available at the address given below for a non-refundable fee of JD 1,000 payable to JEA for each set (two copies of the tender documents). Jordan Electricity Authority

Jabai Amman - 7th Circle Post Office Box 2310 Amman, Jordan Telex: 21259 JEASAK, Fax No.: 818336

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### A case for government intervention?

THE PROTEST by parents and students at the New English School over the school's decision to hike its fees hy about 50 per cent as of next year raises a serious issue on the advisability of governmental intervention is such matters.

On one hand, there is a growing conviction in most countries that the "least government is the best government" and that the less the state interferes in how people run their businesses, schools and hospitals the better. This school of thought gained currency in the wake of the dismal failure of not only communism but also socialism in practically all the countries that introduced them as a panacea to their economic, social and political woes.

Historically, when the Industrial Revolution emerged from the ruins of feudalism in 18th century Europe, laissez faire economies prevailed in most of the continent and non-government intervention was absent. However, the Industrial Revolution brought about social, economic and political problems that gave rise to labour unions and labour disputes that ultimately prompted additional legislations and increased governmental intervention aiming to resolve the unrest and instability that ensued. In some societies, governmental interference took the form of extreme socialism and communism.

We all know now the fate of this medicine and peoples across the world are weary about reintroducing it in some form or the other. Yet the diagnosis of the ills that caused the rise of governmental control needs to be undertaken once again in a bid to eliminate or at least reduce to the bear minimum the opportunities for state direct involvement in decision-making that can be best handled by the people themselves. The surest way to arrive at this bappy state of affairs is to have our private institutions act responsibly and justly in order to avoid the causes that prompt govern agencies to step into the fray. More important of course is for people to organise themselves in parties, leagues, societies and pressure groups in order to defend their interests.

Admittedly the Ministry of Education interference in the running and operation of private schools is the last thing that sensible people want. Wherever the ministry intervened, it caused more problems than it had solved. This is not to mention the fact that the quality of education at most of the private institutions of learning in Jordan has deteriorated considerably due to governmental regulations on curricula. textbooks and modes and style of education.

No one would seriously want the concerned authorities to step still into other areas of education. On the other hand, owners or co-owners of private elementary and secondary schools are called upon to weigh heavily the social, economic and educational ramifications of their decisions in order to abort all plans for increased state actions.

### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'l commented on the explosions in Cairo, New York and London by elaiming that the blasts caused by the perpetrators of the Gulf War and the aggressors, have started to reach them and destabilise their own countries. Tareq Masarweh said that the Gulf War took place under the present inibalance in world order with the United States wielding sole hegemony over other nations playing the role of sole superpower. The blasts and the civil strife as well as regional conflicts, he said, are bound to happen everywhere in the world evea in New York and London, not only in the Gulf, in the former Yugoslavia, in Afghanistan and Somalia as triggered by the U.S.-led Western coalition. With the downfall of the Soviet Union, the world has witnessed the collapse of the United Nations, the Arab League, the Third World movement and the numerous divisions among nations and blocs simply due to the lack of superpower balance and a force that could stem U.S. hegemony, said the writer. The world was more halanced with two superpowers and the United Nations was better functioning than today, while the sovereignty and territorial integrity of various nations were safeguarded to the best interest of the world at large, said the writer. He said that Washington's victory over the world enabled the rulers of Kuwait to come out victorious over Iraq and the Arab Nation at large, it enabled the Serbs to wage war on the Muslims of the former Yugostavia and untenshed the hidden forces in the former Soviet Union in the form of regional strife and factional wars. The writer said that these victories have created world-wide chaos whose consequences are hard to stop.

A columnist in Al Ra'l daily tackled the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) decision to disrupt partial services to telephone subscribers who fail to pay their dues for the past two months. Ziyad Al Shilleh said that during the month of Ramadan, the office hours of banks accepting the bills and those of the TCC itself have shrunk, reducing the chance for the public to settle payments. It seems that the TCC had overlooked the fact that effect home strink during the month of Ramadan, with the TCC Marks. This, he said, is the take their payment in time before the TCC embarks on its in the of disrupting the service. The writer said that it would be on the part of the TCC to defer taking any measure in this a good until the month of Ramadan is over so as to give more time

The entere . 1 p : -

to rebscribers to make their payment,

The View from Fourth Circle

By Rami G. Khouri

# Have another serving of diplomatic soul food

THE SIX-point compromise agreement now being proposed to restart the Arab-Israeli peace talks is, like so many other phenomena around here, an exercise in ancient Middle Eastern spirituality that is good for the soul. It is appropriate to our Holy Land because its acceptance and application rely on faith rather than on anythiag more concrete.

If the agreement allows the peace talks to resume, then we should applaud it and get on with the business of negotiating an Arab-Israeli peace accord that would secure Palestinian and other Arab national rights. We should not ignore the small moral gains inherent in the accord, but neither should we fool ourselves into thinking that we have achieved a major triumph.

The importance of the compromise accord does not lie in its particular political content, but rather in its contextual symbolism, i.e. it does not change the balance of power between Israelis and Arabs and it has little real impact on the lives of the Palestinian people as a whole. But it does slightly tighten the diplomatic rope around Zionism's militaristic neck. It is a symbol of the increasingly narrow room for manoeuvre that Israel enjoys

in the world today.

Clearly, the Arabs and Israelis want to resume the peace talks, but we the Arabs need a face-ssaving formula to do so without appearing to have forgotten about the 400 Palestinians expelled to

The compromise accord provides precisely such a formula, despite its obvious weaknesses. Most of the points of the agreement, as it stands today and as outlined in the press, appear to be sufficiently vague that Israel can ignore them or interpret them in such a narrow way that they become meaningless. The "commitments" expected from Israel either have no mechanism for implementation, or can be implemented in a very limited manner that denudes or even defies their political spirit.

For example, Israel may stop deporting people, but instead it will keep killing them, or jailing them for decades at a time, or blowing ap their homes, or forcing them to stay at bome without work. It will allow back half a dozen politically low-key Palestinians who were expelled in previous years, and it will allow the 400 expellees in southern Lebanon to return home later this year, after arguing that they served their sentences and therefore their return is politically insignificant. Israel will also discuss U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242

and 338 and the status of Jerusalem at the next round of talks, but only within the context of its own interpretations. And both Israel and the United States will say they are against buman rights violations, but will accept most of Israel's routine human rights violations as an unavoidable Israeli response to alleged Arab

This is a gloomy assessment, but, then, this has been a gloomy half century; to escape it through fantasy rides into zones of political make-believe may be fun and therapeutic, but is not very constructive in terms of diplomatic progress to contain Zionism

and restore Palestinian and other Arab rights. The compromise agreement on offer now is a classic piece of inter-Semitic diplomatic verbiage — words that sound good, but that relate less to the real world of human beings and their material needs, and more to the Arab and Israeli soul's need to avoid shame and humiliation.

Furthermore, the position of the United States will be crucial for the implementation of the accord, which gets us back to the central dilemma of the Arabs in the current peace talks: We expect and rely on more activist American intervention in the peace talks, yet virtually unquestioning American support for Israel is one of the main reasons we have been occupied. subjagated and humiliated by Israel in the last quarter of a century. We anticipate that the financier, armourer, and diplomatic shield of our enemy will suddenly become our benefactor and ally. This is highly illogical and very improbable; bat in this land of miracles, prophecy and magical morality, it's probably standard operating procedure. Like I said, it's all very spiritual, requiring much blind faith.

That's the bad news. The good news is that, despite all the above, we should recognise the positive elements inherent in the compromise agreement. The most important gain for us was contained in the initial U.S.-Israeli compromise formula presented to the U.N. Security Council a mouth ago, by which Israel expressed its readiness to take back about 100 expellees immediately and the rest by the end of this year. Such an Israeli reversal of policy, in response to Arab and international demands that it implement the provisions of Security Council Resolution 799, is a powerful sign that Israel's heretofore total defiance of Arab rights, international positions, and U.N. resolutions is beginning to crack. This is unprecedented, and therefore very important, because it sets the stage for possibly greater Palestinian and Arab gains in the peace

The larger picture around the peace talks is now becoming clear, about one and a half years after the process opened in Madrid. Israel will not voluntarily relinquish land, power, natural resources or its own nationalistic phantasies and mythology. Nor will the United States suddenly see the light and push hard for Palestinian and Arab national rights. The process is slower and more subtle. It is a process by which Israel's gross injustice to the Palestinians and its aggression against Arab states ia modern

history stick out today as glaring anachronisms.

By the same token, Zionism, in its present, militaristic and predatory form, appears to be an awkward and intenable holdover from the old global order of 19th century colonialism, the early 20th century quest for post-colonial imperial advantage, and the mid-to-late 20th century demise of discredited parallel ideologies such as Fasciem Nazism socialist nationalism. ideologies such as Fascism, Nazism, socialist nationalism, Com-

munism, apartheld, and racism.

Zionism and Israel bave relied on several powerful allies in recent decades, including European and American guilt over the Jewish Holocaust, the transparent commercialism of British imperial fantasy and American electoral politics, Israel's self-projection as a bulwark against the spread of Communism in the Arab World, and the traditional Arab refusal to negotiate peace

The first three factors above have disappeared or are slowly doing so. Israel has few commercial deals left to make with the West, and few emotional buttons left to push in its traditional est for national dominance over the Arabs. And now, the peace talks have taken away Israel's last major crutch - that it was not accepted in the region and that no Arabs would negotiate with it.

The peace talks are just now starting to show their true historic importance. In the absence of Arab military strength or the Arab

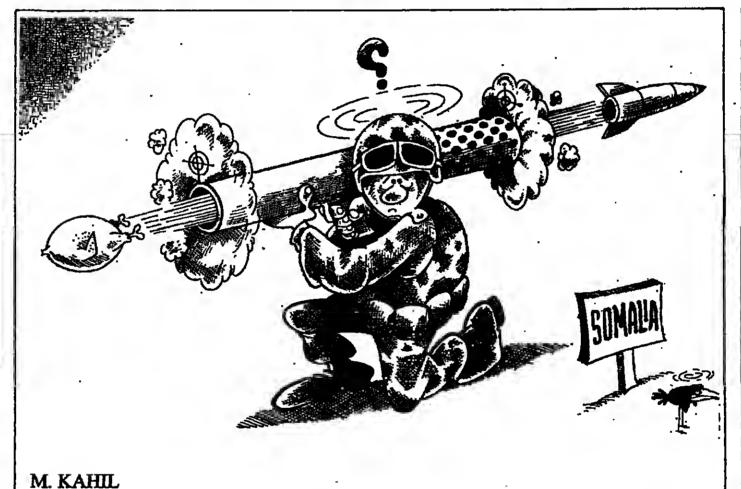
will to use existing capabilities, diplomacy is today our best and probably only means of progress in the battle with Zionism.

The small but significant concessions we have obtained from Israel and the United States in the last two months should not be under-estimated; they are important signals of changing times. They occured partiy because transformed global circumstances peeled away the thick outer layers of our conflict and forced Arabs and Israelis to get down to discussing the core issue of coexistence. But I believe that the concessions bappened primarily because we and the Israelis are now locked in a negotiating context in which it is impossible to evade the central issues of Arab and Israeli national rights.

Let us keep an honest perspective: The compromise over Resolution 799 will not make much difference to the peace talks. but the success of the peace talks will prevent future incidents such as the recent mass expulsions of the 400 Palestinians. This seems to be reflected in the relatively methodical and mature Arab approach to resuming the peace talks, on the basis of the compromise offer over Resolation 799 that is now on the table.

If this sort of rationality, realism, gradualism and composure will guide Arab diplomacy from now on, we have much to look forward to, and the Israelis bave much to worry about.

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# Iraq rebuffed yet again

U.N. sees little progress in Baghdad's declaration that it will allow long-term monitoring of its weapons

By Randall Palmer Reuter

MANAMA - U.N. officials sat up and took notice when they heard Iraq had declared that it accepted long-term monitoring of its weapons capabilities.

A dispute over long-term monitoring is one of the problems preveating the U.N. special com-mission (UNSCOM), which over-sees the weapons destruction, from declaring Iraqi compliance with Gulf war ceasefire terms. This is essential for any lifting of

sanctions.
But when they saw the details of the statement, the officials reacted with scepticism, saying that Baghdad was still failing to comply with U.N. demands.

Lieutenant-Geaeral Amer Rasheed, head of the Iraqi Military Industrialisatioa Commission which oversaw development of big weapons programmes, told Reuters in Baghdad on Friday: "We are ready for long-term modificting... we are committed

The United Nations has iasisted that Iraq specifically accept U.N. Security Council Resolution 715, which sets the details of how the long-term inclinering will work.

"He is certainly making posi-tive noises, a positive declaration about their willingness to con-tinue in long-term inspections," said Doaglas Englund, UN-

SCOM's spokesman in Bahrain. "But it (the interview) doesn't really mention 715, which the commission continues to mention

as a condition." Among other important de-mands UNSCOM has made is that Iraq reveal who supplied the weapons systems and components, in order to choke off these supply routes. Inspectors have also said Iraq must stop making what they said were false declara-

view Friday that the Iraqi leadership had issued orders for the implementation of the Gulf war ceasefire terms in Security Council Resolution 687 "in a positive

and constructive way."

Mr. Eagluad responded: "They have said they accept 687 and the provisions of 687 and that includes long-term monitoring. If pressed, they say 'we accept long-term monitoring."

But he said Iraqi policy has been to reject 715 as too intru-

"(The Iragis) have cried wolf one too many times for me, and I have stopped reading too much into such remarks," a Western diplomat

No definitive progress has been made on these issues. Iraq says it is willing to positively consider requests for information on the supply network but has so har refused to answer questions aiready put.
Mr. Rasheed's tone had

changed since a conversation he had with a U.N. inspector in President George Bush was still in power. He said then he would break the backs of any Iraqi providing information to the U.N. teams.

Mr. Rasheed said in the inter-

U.N. officials say it is not up to Iraq to reject a Security Council Resolution. The reason they are pressing for formal acceptance is

raise obstacles similar to those it

In January, in the twilight of the Bush administration. Baghiors to fly into iraq, directly contravening Security Council re-

UNSCOM Chief Rolf Ekeus gave specific details in New York tinning to take good care of those in describing bow on Feb. 22 Iraq who surround him.

الله المراجع ا المراجع المراجع

twice threatened to shoot down a U.N. belicopter that was participating ia inspections near Bagh-dad. General Rasheed denied there had been any threat.

crucial to the oil markets, which would tumble if Iraq were readmitted without restrictions, and to financial markets as well. Iraq has spurned a U.N. offer

to let it produce about half a million barrels per day (BPD) — it rejects the U.N. conditions of the deal. Bat those in the industry think it could pump two million BPD if sanctions were lifted com-

pletely.

It is not only the opinion of U.N. inspectors that couats. Security Council members will ultimately bave to agree to lift the sanctions, imposed as a result of Iraq's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

A diplomat from one permanent Western member of the Security Council said he did not give much credence to Mr. Rasheed's remarks.

Those boys have cried worf to try to ensure that Iraq does not (raised false alarms) one too many times for me, and I've stopped reading too mach into such remarks," he said. He added that he doubted Iraqi

Prevident Saddam Husseia wanted to return to the market for now because he could keep his Kurdish and Shitte Muslim opponents deprived while con-

### **LETTERS**

### A U.N. precedence pass unnoticed

To the Editor:

LAST WEEK the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations adopted a resolution condemning Israel's violation of human rights in the occapied territories. The commission also appointed a special rapporteur to monitor Israel's actions in this area. The relevant text is as follows:

4. (The commission) decides to appoint a special rapporteur with the

4. (The commission) decrees to appoint a special tapportent want the following mandate:

a) To investigate Israel's violations of the principles and bases of international law, international humanitarian law, the Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war, of 12 August 1949, ia the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967.

b) To receive communications, to hear witnesses and use such the communication of the principles of the bit of the communication of the principles. modalities of procedure as he may deem necessary for his mandate.
c) To report, with his conclusions and recommendations, to the commission on human rights at its future sessions, until the end of the Israeli occupation of those territories.

Although this was an unprecedented positive action takea by the United Nations, the local press did not feel it necessary to dedicate to it more than a few brief lines. It should be highlighted that this move by the commission on Human Rights is of great importance to the Arab-Israeli conflict and more importantly to Palestinians in the occupied territories whose rights have been violated throughout Israel's occupation of these

The text of the resolution brings out some very important issues in this area. For the first time, a U.N. resolution has referred to the territories occupied since 1967 as "Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967." This is a clear indication of the U.N.'s stand concerning the ownership of the territories in question — clearly defining the owner and

occupier.

The resolution, in its clear definition of ownership, has reinforced the text of Security Council Resolution 242 of 22 Nov. 1967, which the Arabs have been attempting to establish as the basis of all negotiations during the peace talks. The resolution also goes on to indicate the laws and conventions being violated by Israel and enforcing the demand to abide by these laws and conventions. In doing so, it has openly stated that Israel is in reality a violator of human rights who should be stopped.

ia reality a violator of human rights who should be stopped.

In appointing a rapporteur to monitor Israel's actions and to report back to the Commission on Human Rights, it is sending Israel the clear message that it acknowledges the rights of the Palestinians, Israel's violations of these rights, and the fact that "someone is watching over" what is happening in the occupied territories. For the Palestinians, this is encouraging in that it not only acknowledges their rights and the violations of these rights, but it also gives them the right to protest to an international authority against these violations.

The U.N. should be commended on finally taking such positive steps towards protecting the human rights of Palestinians in the occupied territories, in spite of the protests made against this resolution by the U.S. The Arabs can only hope that this resolution will be implemented properly and consistently, unlike previous resolutions concerning the occupied territories. The world finally seems to acknowledge the fact that Palestinians are also humans whose rights are of no less importance than

Palestinians are also humans whose rights are of no less importance than any other, and that they are in desperate need of the protection of these rights. This is step forward which may precede other positive steps towards achieving the peaceful and just solution to the Arab-Israeli

> Ghadah Mahmoud, American-Arab Anti-discrimination Committee,

A P

### **Education** or commerce?

I AM sure that I speak for all of the "disgruntled" parents and students of the New English School (NES) as well as a vast majority of teachers, in thanking the Jordan Times for giving this fee dispute issue the attention it NES initial ideals were to provide a first class education for reasonable

fees. Since the school expanded and was taken over by a businessman these ideals seem to have flown and the school has become a commercial enterprise. Secondary school students, who are in the crucial years of their studies, and face the prospect of their parents having to remove them from NES because they cannot afford these fees, have every right to protest and voice their feelings. These children will be the future backbone of our beloved country, which incidentally, is this writer's adopted country.

Many parents would like to see government intervention to control private school fees; government control is exercised over many financial areas, such as foodstuffs, even the price to cut one's hair is approved by government departments. Surely fee increases should be controlled and fair. What is the guarantee that the school will not impose such increases

It has been suggested that this is a natural "cuil". Having overloaded the school with students to pay for the expansion, it is rumoured that the school does not need all the students. So it has increased fees in the hopes that some parents would remove their children. Is this education or

Name withheld upon request

### Israel seals off Gaza after attack (Continued from page 1)

horrified and shocked all of us obligates a renewed discussion on this subject of the double danger our presence there and the presence of Gazans here," Mr. Rubinstein said.

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Wielding two knives, Silmi rampaged along a street in a seedy commercial district near the central bus station, fatally stabbing Natan Azariya, a 20-year-old barber, and immigrant Gregory Abramov, 27, police

Seven of the nine wounded remained in the hospital with medium to light injuries, medical authorities said,

A mob waylaid the assailant and he was beaten with a metal pipe before a police vehicle arrived and hastled him away.

Gaza, home to 750,000 Palestinians, has been sealed in the past, most recently for a week in December as punishment for an ambush by Muslim fundamentalist guerrillas that killed three

Israeli soldiers.
Half of Gaza's labour force works in Israel, and closures hit the impoverished area hard.

Fathi Al Shukaki, secretarygeneral of the Islamic Jihad, said in Damascus Monday's attack responded to Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians who belonged to his group and to Hamas, another fundamentalist organisation.

Mr. Shukaki said Silmi was an active member of the Islamic

"The man who carried out the operation is Ziyad Salim Silmi who is an active member of the Islamic Jihad," Mr. Shukaki said. He said the attack was part of the group's "resistance against the Zionist occupation" and pledged more attacks against Israelis until all evictoes are returned home.

"These operations will contimue until all our brothers are returned home and until we re-

gain all our usurped rights." Asked whether Silmi was ordered by Islamic Jihad to carry out the attack, Mr. Shukaki said, "I confirm that Ziyad is a member of the Islamie Jihad. What

does that mean? Mr. Shnkaki denied the Israeli police statement that Silmi carried out the attack because he was angered by his failure to find

"Israel's claim that Ziyad acted because he was upset over not finding work is completely un-He said.

Mr. Shukaki said he learned details of the operation from members of his group inside the Israeli-occupied territories. He did not say how he made contact.

There are no direct communications links between Syria and Israel but several Damascusbased Palestinian groups contact their members in the West Bank and Gaza by fax through a third

country. France condemned the attack and said the fate of the Middle East peace talks hinged on both sides trying to defuse hatred in the occupied territories.

Foreign ministry spokesman Daniel Bernard said the violence could not be justified and would not help any lasting solution of the Palestinian problem.

Killing unarmed civilians shocks our conscience and deserves our condemnation." he

told reporters. "The current atmosphere in the occupied territories is detestable and it is urgent to improve it through peace gestures from both sides," Mr. Bernard said.

Christopher confident of April talks

(Continued from page 1) message from Mr. Mubarak to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and conducted talks on the Middle East peace process and the latest developments in the

region.
Dr. Baz also met Foreign Minister Shimon Peres Sunday. Palestinians, who have not agreed to resume peace talks, want Mr. Rabin to accelerate the return of all the Palestimans he expelled to Lebanon in December and to promise not to use

intense efforts to defuse the crisis

Mr. Rabin sounded a tough stance on the issue Sunday saying other states had "no right whatsoever" to condition further peace talks on Israel curbing its anti-Palestinians measures.

His speech to American Jewish leaders came while Dr. Baz was visiting to discuss the stalled

Dr. Baz said after an hour-long meeting with Mr. Rabin that he gave him a message from Mr. Mubarak about peace talks, but Egypt has been involved in would not elaborate.

### PLO disagrees with expellee leader

(Continued from page 1)

at giving Israel more time to win ground at the expense of the suffering of the deportees and their families," said Dr. Rantisi at the expellees' makeshift camp. "If Israel does not agree that deportations are illegal then the problem will still be pending," he

Sources said one of the points in the U.S. plan, assembled last week by Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Israel, was the

accelerated return of the expel-lees "in compliance with" 799. They also include a "binding commitment" from Israel not to carry out more expulsions, a U.S. statement that expulsions are illegal and a U.S. commitment that the Jewish state will fully implement 799.

Dr. Rantisi said the exiles were 799 being linked to the other points in the U.S. suggestions. "Christopher's proposals con-tradict resolution 799 calling for

opposed to implementation of our immediate and safe return,

demand they all go back together

and rejected a phased return. "We are surprised at the U.S. stand ... Christopher talks of heading towards resolving the deportees' case despite the fact that Resolution 799 exists but implementing it bas been delayed, he added.

Mr. Christopher said Sunday he thought Arabs would agree to resume peace talks with Israel in April and there would soon be developments to ease the obstacle caused by the expulsions.

A Palestinian wielding à com-

mando knife killed two people and wounded nine in Tei Aviv Monday before being caught and beaten by Israelis. Police said he came from the Gaza Strip.

The fundamentalist group Islamic Jihad said one of its members carried out the stabbings in response to the expulsions .

Dr. Rantisi said the attack proved that the expulsions would never improve security for Israel as Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin claimed shortly after he ordered the expulsions.

"Now be sees the truth in front of his eyes," Dr. Rantisi said.

### Dr. Rantisi said. The exiled men Hamas denies seeking to replace PLO

(Continued from page 1)

into accepting Secretary of State Warren Christopher's six-point plan and return to the negotiating

table scheduled in April. The plan, which the PLO said needed some improvement before accepting it and which was completely rejected by Hamas and the expellees, includes the "accelerated return of the evictees in compliance with resolution 799," which calls on Israel to immediately repatriate all the evictees. Hamas and the evictees insist on the full implementation of 799 and say that the PLO acceptance or rejection of the offer to return to the negotiations has no impact on Hamas' position since it opposes the peace talks

altogether.

Mr. Nazzal, who maintained that the ambassadors he met with agreed on the full implementation of Resolution 799, said that the PLO "should know better than to worry about Hamas becoming an alternative lead-

"We are rejected by the West, where we are considered Islamic fundamentalists," Mr. Nazzal said. "It is also difficult for the West to swallow our policy of liberation from the sea to the

Hamas, like all other Islamist groups, opposes the peace talks which are based on Security Council resolution 242 and 338

calling for Israel's withdrawal from the territories it occupied in 1967, insists on taking back all of Palestine and refuses to recognise

Mr. Nazzal reiterated that Hamas was trying to convince Western governments that its armed activity was limited to the occupied territories against Israeli occupation forces and not against civilian targets, nor against Western targets outside Palestine. "Thus we do not fall under the definition of terrorists," he said. Hamas has claimed responsibility to the killing of more than six Israeli soldiers, including an officer the group kidnapped before killing. The killings were cited by Israel as one of the main reasons for the Meanwhile, an American de-

nial was conveyed to the Palestinians of recent statements by a State Department official that the U.S. continued to consider the PLO as a "terrorist" group to justify its rejection of resuming the U.S.-PLO dialogue, PLO

sources told the Jordan Times. The sources said that the PLO had protested against the American statements labelling it as "terrorist." The State Department sent a letter to the Palestimians reassuring them that "these statements were the personal opinion of one official, and the administration policy does not regard the PLO as a terrorist organisation."

### Milosevic's unchallenged reign

By Julijana Mojsilovic The Associated Press

BELGRADE — Serb intellectuals increasingly warn of a darkness descending on their nation condemned by the world as instigator of wars in neighbouring Croatia and Bosnia.

Many of their countrymen seem moved by appeals to nationalism, and appear not to notice the destruction caused by the dream of a greater Serbia. Others see no point in opposing President Slobodan Milosevic and his allies.

People here live in a parallel reality," said Dragan Popuabic, a social psychologist and professor at Belgrade University. "It is not important what is really going on. What matters is how somebody anthoritative interprets to them

As Yngoslavia disintegrated, Mr. Milosevic demanded that all Serbs live in one state. He backed rebels who seized a third of Croatia and 70 per cent of Bosnia.

Almost two years of fighting has left 150,000 people dead or missing and 2 million refugees. The dream hasn't come true, and enthusiasm seems to be waning.

At home, Mr. Milosevic faces an estimated 40 per cent unemployment, monthly inflation of more than 200 per cent, a 50 per cent, a 50 per cent plus drop in industrial production and average wages of less than \$50 monthly. Serbia is the target of international trade sanctions because it is blamed for violence in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Serbs in Croatia rebelled when that republic declared its indepedence from Yugoslavia, Violence resumed in Croatia last month, when Croats launched an offensive to take back some territory, lost to Serbs during the 1991 civil

Serbs in Bosnia began fighting a year ago, after that republic's Croats and Muslims declared independence.

"What can we do?" asked Vela Arsic, a worker at a state run Belgrade factory, "If we go onto the streets peacefully, they will let us stay there for ages. If a demonstration turns violent, they will crush us with police, army,

When workers get restive about low salaries or bad conditions, the government simply prints more money, he said. Mr. Milosevic handily won

elections in December. Despite allegations of widespread cheating, it is clear that many people extreme nationalists. "Rather than seriously facing

their frustration for losing wars and hopes, Serbs either choose not to believe what's happening to them - or blame others for it," Mr. Papadic said.

Historian Vasilije Krestic is tic declared. Serbs to be victims of an international conspiracy.

"The vilification of Serbs is a result of a German and Austrian conspiracy to win back what they lost in 1910 and 1945," Mr. Kres-

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their status ...depends on themselves and their rational behaviour towards the standards of the modern world," said Zoran Djindjic, a philosopher and a leader of the opposition Demo-

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Mr. Milosevic himself, deset among the many who embrace official propaganda that proclaim majority of Serbs realise that

In January 1992, he forced Croatia's Serbs to accept an international peace deal. This Jannary, he pressed Bosnia's Serbs to attend peace talks

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## Ecologists decry Mexico's slow pace in clearing pollution

By Christine Tierney Reuter

MEXICO CITY - More than a decade since the government first drafted a plan to clean up air pollution in Mexico-City, ecologists and residents despair that little has been done to solve the

During the winter months, a thick brown haze hangs over the city, the product of three million vehicles and 30,000 factories spewing contaminants into the

Ozone levels routinely climb over twice the maximum levels considered safe by the World Health Organisation, and on the worst day it is not unusual to see pedestrians holding handkerchiefs to their faces to filter the polluted air.

The government of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has enacted a number of antipollution laws, but to little effect, environmentalists say, because the measures are inadequate. poorly enforced and superseded by economic concerns.

We're not seeing any reduction in the contamination," said Homero Aridjis, a former ambassador to Switzerland and the Netherlands who formed the environmental lobby. El Grupo de Cien (the group of 100). in 1985.

The seemingly intractable problem is the result of many factors. Like many Third World cities. the Mexican capital has been a magnet for millions of impoverished people from small villages seeking a better life, with the result that its population has exploded from one million in the 1940s to more than 20 million

And as the primary centre of wealth in Mexico — a third of the nation's gross domestic product is generated here — the city has attracted thousands of manufacturing plants seeking nearby markets for their goods.

Mexico City's rapid growth has outpaced the public transport system so that highways are constantly clogged with cars. The fumes from the vehicles and plants, in turn, pour into air that. because the city is at an altitude of 2,417 metres, has a quarter less oxygen than at sea level and is trapped by surrounding moun-

When air pollution levels climb to dangerous levels, Mexican au- bated by Mexico's traditional thorities announce that factories workday of 12 hours, broken up must cut production to reduce by a four-hour siesta. Workers emissions, but the orders apply to only 214 of the valley's 30,000

Thal, said Mr. Aridjis, is indicative of the insufficiency of the government's response and also its unwillingness to compromise Mexico's delicate economy by re- change the tradition.

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ducing industrial oulput. "The government's position is that you cannot paralyse Mexico

City's economy, he said.

The federal prosecutor for the protection of the environment, Santiago Onate, acknowledges that production cutbacks need to be expanded to more companies. but says the government is hindered by the legacy of past econo-

mic problems.

Many factories, strapped for cash, use outdated technology ill-equipped for pollution control. And Mexican workers are largely untrained in the art of maintaining what modern, clean-burning equipment there is, he said.

An economic crisis provoked by Mexico's huge foreign debt in the 1980s slowed industrial investment and dried up public funds that might have been spent on the environment.

The government finally acquired two helicopters tast month to look for polluting factories. which has helped in enforcement of existing laws. Mr. Onate said. Although ozone, which is formed when unburned hydrocarbons react with sunlight, remains a problem, lead and sulphur dioxide emissions are down, he told

"We're seeing a trend of greater compliance." he said. Still, the heart of the problem vehicles, which are blamed for

70 per cent of the city's pollution.

Inadequate public transport means that reliance on cars is heavy. Only last year were auto manufacturers required to install pollution control devices on cars. so the vast majority of those on the road emit a steady stream of In an attempt to cut the num-

ber of cars in circulation, the government requires motorists to leave their vehicles at home one But progress in reducing car emissions has been slight, in part

because of the public's unwillingness to give up their cars. Many commuters confess to

etting around restrictions either buying a second car or by bribing police who stop them if they are violating the government's order.

"The transit police are very corrupt and they are the first to violate the law, "Mr. Aridjis said. The environmental leader said

the pollution problem is exacertypically drive home and back during the siesta, clogging the roads in the afternoon in addition to the morning and evening rush

He criticised the government for not taking the initiative 10

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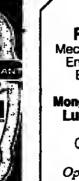
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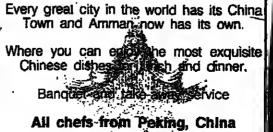
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communicating and correspond

ing with others which can be very much to your advantage, tonight use car on the highway or in

LIBRA: (September 23 to October

22) You clearly see now how to increase the value and appearance

of your possessions so get busy and do so after which think out a better

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) You are loaded with charm

and magnetism and you can get most anything of a personal nature you go after, so do just that; tonight avoid an older depressing

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Cagily approach an expert and you can get the news you wish about a condition that is important to you and spend much time with one who charms you.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) Listen attentively to what an expert suggests as the best way for you to engage in and enjoy recreations you like most, lonight don't push your lock.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to Febru-

ary 19) You can find out exactly where you stand with influential

persons who have it in their power

to give you the chance to express your abilities.

PISCES: (February 20 to March

person.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY MARCH 2, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: With

the Moon Voide of Course early in

the a.m. and squaring Mercury you will need to anticipate delays and

changes io your schedule that could well prove frustrating all concerned. Don't let it through

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

You have every chance today to

uncover the business data you wish

and to quietly build accord with attachment.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Attitudes of those you regard as outside associates come ioto the open but they require careful

analysis by you to handle most

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You can add any special charm, efficiency to your environment so

whatever you have to do can be earlier to perform, tonight avoid an account wrangle.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) Be on the lookout for

appealing recreations, make arrangements to enjoy them and tonight sidestep an outside associate who is a cold fish.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Take

some ome out to improve and

in order to have more abu

you or cause friction.

## Agassi wins 19th career title

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (R) -Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi survived a strong upset bid by unheralded Marcos Ondruska of South Africa to win the final of the \$300,000 Scottsdale Tennis Championships 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 Sun-

The second-seeded Agassi's victory ended a streak by the unseeded 230 year-old in which he upset seeds Francisco Clavet of Spain. American Brad Gilbert and Russian Andrei Chesnokov

without Insing a set.
"I did what I had to do out there today. There's no question my experience helped me." said Agassi, who added his second title of the year and 19th in 26 career finals to earn \$39,600.

Despite the victory, the eighth-ranked Agassi said he wasn't focusing on the number one rank-. ing just vet. "I'm closer but in my mind I'm not there yet. If it comes along with hard work and

results. I'll be ready for it." The 22-year-old American, who is 12-1 and off to the quickest start of his seven-year career, quickly carried a one-set advantage by breaking service four times while losing his own twice.

Both players agreed the turning point of the two-hour 22minute contest, played in cold, windy, drizzly conditions, came in the fourth game of the decisive set as Agassi survived five match points to go ahead 3-1.

MILAN (R) - Paul Gascoigne's

troubled debut season with Lazio

plunged to its nadir Sunday when

he was sent off in a heated Italian

League match against Genoa

which was also interrupted by a

The former Tottenham player,

whose fitness and form have been

a constant worry for the Rome

club, was given his marching

orders 25 minutes into the second

half for lashing out at Genoa's

Lazio coach Dino Zoff said

later on Italian radio he didn't

think there was anything mali-

and gascoigne pulled him over."
Zoff said. "It was just one of

The news for Gascoigne's team

mates was much better. They

overcame a two-goal deficit to

beat Genea 3-2 and move into

third place behind Milan and

German Karlheinz Riedle

scored twice and the league's

hit Lazio's third from the penalty

ading scorer Gluseppe Signori

But the game had to be held up

for three minutes after the final

Lazio goal when up to a dozen

On a day which saw 29 goals in

Genna fans invaded the pitch.

nine matches, Milan beat Samp-

dona with ridiculous case, 40 at

San Siro, to take their unbeaten

his outstanding recent form with

two goals, while high-priced re-

cruit Gianluigi Lentini emerged

from a form slump to score the

A last-minute Fiorentina goal

carned them a 2-2 draw against

Internazionale and left Inter 10

points behind their Milan rivals in

Barcelona score seven

Barcelona buried Sporting Gi-

jon under an avlanche of seven goals Sunday in an action-packed

came which saw four penalties

and a Barcelona player sent off. Danish international Michael

Jean-Pierre Papin continued

run to 56 matches.

other two.

second place.

"He didn't kick the player, there was just a bit of elbowing

minor pitch invasion.

Mario Bortolazzi.

those things.

cious in the incident.

it together. I think that (the fourth game) was the turning point," said Agassi,

"That stage of the match was where a wind was blowing either way and I was against it on my serve. I knew getting by that game was going to be a big step in winning the match."

"Yeah, the fourth game was key," said Ondruska. "I wasn't able to convert there."

A break in the seventh game gave the American a 5-2 lead before Ondruska broke back. But at 5-3, Agassi sealed the victory, breaking for the eighth time in the match.

Ondruska, who collected \$23,330, paid tribute to Agassi's

"It was a very physical match and he put me under pressure, said Ondruska who after starting the week at number 67 will move

into the top 50.
"Today, I wanted to take my game towards him, make him play around me," added Ondruska. "It has to do with our stubborness that we both have good games from the baseline. But he came through strong in the third

Fernandez clinches Evert Cup

Top-seeded Mary Joe Fernandez nearly let a badly needed confidence builder get away from

Gascoigne sent off; Milan forge ahead

Munich's Bruno Labbadia is dragged down to the ground by his

Kaiserslautern opponent Jan Eriksson as Lothar Mattaeus (right) of

Munich looks on. Munich won 3-1 (AFP photo)

Laudrup, Bulgarian striker Hris-

to Stoichkov and Julio Salinas

scored two goals each, as Barce-

lona triumphed 7-2 over lowly

Sporting, maintaining their press-

ure on league leaders Real Mad-

Madrid who beat Deportivo

Coruna 2-1 Saturday, have the

same number of points as Depor-

tivo but a better goal difference.

Barcelona are two points adrift

Earlier in the week Barcelona

coach Johan Cruyff criticised his

team's initernational stars.

Stoichkov and Laudrup, for not

playing well enough in recent

The pair responded in style,

scoring four goals between them,

including a penalty apiece - two

goals in the first half for Laudrup

and two in the second for Stoich-

Barcelona went into the second

half 3-0 up thanks to Laudrup's

efforts and a goal from Aitor

omnipresent Dane.

Beguiristan, also created by the

Four more goals followed in

the last 20 minutes of the match, with Salinas beating hapless

Sporting goalkeeper Roberto Rodri in the 70th and 83rd mi-

nutes and Stoichkov scoring with

a 79th-minute header and a

penalty in the dying seconds.

but have a game in hand.

"I felt in the third set, I pulled her Sunday but saved two match points to beat fourth seed Amanda Coetzer of South Africa in the final of the \$375,000 Evert Cup.

Fernandez beat Coetzer 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (8-6) in two hours 42 minutes to win only her third career title despite having been ranked in the top 10 for the past three years.

"I baven't won a tournament in over a year. It's a good break-through," said the 21-year-old American, who lost to top-ranked Monica Seles in six of the 10 semifinals she reached in 1992.

"Hopefully, it will give me confidence to win more tournaments when I get to the semifinals and finals," said Fernandez, who carned \$75,000.

"I tried to block out that it was a final and just play the points." the seventh-ranked American



Stoichkov began the season

Sporting's two goals included a

penalty after Barcelona's midfiel-der Miguel Nadal had been sent

off for handling in an open goal-

mouth. Sporting missed an earlier

penalty in what was a thoroughly

Simeone received a rousing re-

ception from the Seville crowd

when they went out to face Athle-

tic Bilbao, having returned from

their midweek international

against Denmark in Argentina.

Maradona created two of the

Simeone scored once and

grim evening for them. Sevilla's two Argentine stars
Diego Maradona and Diego

with a blaze of goals but had not

scored for a month before Sun-

day's match.

Coetzer, who earned \$30,000, was also encouraged, pointing to the closeness of the match.

"Anybody who saw the match knows I could bave won," Coetzer said. "It gives me confidence to know that I can beat the top

#### Jarryd wins Rotterdam title

. players."

Swedish wild card entry Anders Jarryd took bis first singles title since 1990 with a 6-3, 7-5 victory over Czech Karel Novacek in Sunday's final of the Men's World Indoor Tennis Tournament.

Jarryd, one of the top doubles players but ranked only 156 in the world in singles, collected the Rotterdman title for the first time following defeats in the 1986 and 1989 finals.

After winning his first singles title since the Vienna men's indoor tennis tournament in October 1990 and collecting the \$82,000 first prize, excited Jarryd said he would play more singles.

"This tournament has done more for my confidence than the win over Boris Becker (in the Australian Open this year)," said Jarryd, who has over 50 career doubles titles to his credit.

"I did not lose the match, Jarryd won it," said the Czech, successful in the Dubai Open earlier in the month.

goals as Sevilla beat Bilbao 3-1.

Ignacio Conte scored twice for

However, Maradona's famous

Maradona, whose hand helped

Sevilla, who are now sixth in the

hand got him in trouble again.

the ball into the net in the first of

two goals be scored against England in the 1986 World Cup

quarter-finals in Mexico, was booked for deliberate handball.

On a bitterly cold Sunday the ames between Real Oviedo and

Cadiz, and Real Burgos and Atle-

tico Madrid had to be postponed

Benfica close gap on Porto

Striker Joao Pinto scored twice

in Benfica's 2-0 away victory

against Braga Sunday to bring his

team within four points of Portu-

Saturday ahead of their Euro-

pean Cup encounter with AC

Milan next Wednesday, head the

ing Lisbon a further four points

behind in third place after losing

the most expensive player in Por-

tuguese footballing history, made

a disappointing showing on his 27th birthday and was replaced

hy substitute Antonio Pacheco

Sporting's hopes of taking the

title for the first time in 11 years

look increasingly remote after

their defeat by Espinho.

Benfica winger Paulo Futre,

Porto, who beat Salgueiros 3-0

guese League leaders Porto.

table with 37 points.

3-1 away to Espinho.

after 62 minutes.

because of heavy snow.

table.



## Cavaliers knock off league-best Suns

PHOENIX (R) — The red-hot Cleveland Cavaliers outscored the Phoenix Suns 10-1 down the stretch to pull out a 101-94 victory and snap the home win streak of the National Basketball Association's best team at 19 games.

Larry Nance scored six of Cleveland's final 10 points as the Cavs extended their winning streak to seven games and swept both meetings from Phoenix this season. The Cavaliers beat the Suns 123-119 last month at Cleveland.

Nance, who finished with 21 points and 17 rebounds, converted two free throws with 1:42 remaining to tie the game at 93-93. His layup with 48 seconds left gave Cleveland the lead for good.
Charles Barkley recorded his second successive triple double with 27 points, 19 rebounds and 11 assists as the Suns' record dropped to

40-12, still the NBA's best. Richard Dumas added 25 points for the Snns. At New Jersey, Drazen Petrovic scored 28 points and Derrick Coleman added 26 to lead the Nets to a 102-76 rout of the New York Knicks.

Patrick Ewing led the Knicks with 16 points. In Orlando, David Robinson had 23 points, 16 rebounds and seven assists as the San Antonio Spurs snapped a three-game losing streak

with a 94-90 win over the Magic.

Antoine Carr came off the bench to score 25 points in 23 minutes for the Spurs. Dale Ellis added 17 points and nine rebounds for San

Nick Anderson scored 30 points to lead Orlando. Anderson had a career-high six three-pointers. Roockie Shaquille O'Neal, plagued by .for trouble, had 19 points

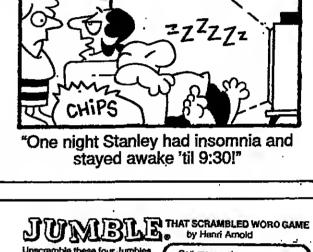
and 13 rebounds for the Magic, which bas lost its last two home

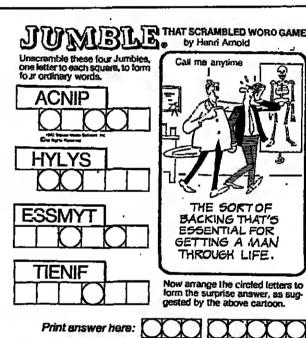
In Boston, Xavier McDaniel scored a season-high 30 points and Reggie Lewis had 28 as the Celtics defeated the Portland Trail Blazers 122-110. Roberts Parish added 16 points for the Celtics, who have won three

Boston led 56-55 at halftime, but pulled away in the second half when the Blazers were without their leading scorer Clyde Drexler. Drexler had 22 points before leaving the game with 11:47 left in the third quarter due to a strained left bamstring. He did not return. In Denver, Chris Jackson scored 28 points and Reggie Williams had 24 to lead the Nuggets to their 11th win in their last 12 home

games, a 110-103 triumph over the Charlotte Hornets. Alonzo Mourning scored 24 points and Kendall Gill added 16 for the Hornets, who bave lost three in a row on the road.







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Puzzle Solved:

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WAYE THAN TREME

57 Against 59 Huron's

61 Mmeo et et.

51 Yearns 52 Dick of TV 53 Port-au-Prince

Yesterday's Jumbles: CRUSH PEACE SHREWD SNUGLY Answer: What the politician became when his ghostwiner suddenly vanished—
SPEECHLESS!

1 Jeopardy
6 Major or Minor
10 Agreement
14 Modern Persian
15 Fido and Tabby

13 Winglike
17 An Evans
18 Highlander
19 Was driven
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39 Certain quantities, in math 41 Intimidates 43 Collection of

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51 Sneeze word
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plant  $\frac{6}{2}$  and downs 9 Nick s dog

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27 European river
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29 Large rodent
31 "Norms —"
33 Small drum

35 Like taffy apple 36 Berra 37 Heraldic band

45 Circle portions 47 Dety

anecdote 44 Stroke in billiards

THE Daily Crossword by Hank Harrington

### **Peanuts**

SNOOPY! YOU'VE COME TO RESCUE ME! YOU CAN PUSH ME ALL THE WAY HOME ..





### **Andy Capp**











### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH 952 The His Model Conness the

PICK THE LOSER

Foth vulnerable. West deals. NORTH ↑2 ∴ A K 9 A 1065 4 A J 965 EAST 10 2 8 Q J 4 3 2 + K Q 10 4 3 SOUTH + A 7 8 ♦ KQJ t08534 B + A 7 6 4 Q J 8 7 6 5 4

The bidding:
West North Eart South
3 ● Dbl Pas. 5 7 Pass 6 Pass Openiog lead: King of 4

Here's o quiz with a difference. With best play and defense South, declarer of six hearts, can make ex-actly 12 tricks. What card scored the defensive trick, and how?

We don't know what the correct bid is with the South hand after North makes a takeout double of three spades. Five hearts is as good as any, and we have considerable admiration for a full-blooded six

There is just one problem with the hand—you have to take care of

two spade losers. Obviously, you in-tend ruffing two spades in dummy, but the danger is that somewhere along the line a defender will overruff with the ten of trumps and re-

turn a trump, in which case you will be atranded with a spade loser. Regardless of which defender has the ten of hearts, you can prevent that easily enough by ruffing with nothing but high trumps. So win the ace of spades, ruff a spade with the king(!), cash the aces of clubs and diamonds to prevent West from dis-carding all of his cards in one of the minors and later ruffing away a winner, and return to hand by ruffing

minor with the queeo of trumps.
Continue by ruffing smother spade with the ace and a minor-suit card with the jack of trumps, setting up the ten of trumps as a trick for the defenders. But that's the only trick they get, as you ruff your last spade with dummy's nine, reducing your hand to nothing but trumps.

Take a bow if you selected the ten of hearts as your loser. But to earn a full secolade you had to admit that

# Economy

Financia! Markets

<sup>CH</sup> 2, 1993

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Correspond.

1993

Jordan Times in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank



U.S. Dollar in International I	Markets	*
Currency	New York Close 11mr 26/2/93	Tokyo Close
Sterling Pound		Pute 1/3/93
Deutsche Mark	1.4270	1.4260
Swks Franc	1.6460	1.6535
French Franc	1.5265	1.5310
Japanese Yen	5.5880	5.6053**
	118.20	118.43
European Curreny Unit	·1.1778	1.1740**
150 Per STC		7.7740

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Currency	ites	Date: 1/3/1993				
<u> </u>	I MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS		
U.S. Dollar	3.18	3.06	3.18	3.50		
Sterling Pound	6.12	6.00	5.62	5.62		
Deutsche Mark	8.5C	8.12	7.62	7.12		
Swiss Franc	5.37	5.31	5.06	4.75		
French Franc	-11.68	11.68	10.87	9.62		
Japanese Yen	3.43	3.25	3.18	3.15		
European Currency Unit	9.68	9.56	9.12	8.50		

Precious M	letais			Date: ]/	3/1993
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm²	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	329.10	6.35	Silver	3.60	.080
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<b>4</b>	M			Exchange		
COMPA		ot.	Jordan	Exchange	D-sta	March Land

	Dat	m= 1/3/1993
Currency	· Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6910	0.6930
Sterling Pound	G. 9835	0.9884
Deutsche Mark	0.4173	0.4194
Swiss Franc	0.4506	0.4529
Freech Franc	0.1231	0.1237
Japanese Yen"	0.5828	0.5857
Dutch Guilder	0.3713	0.3732
Swedish Krona	0.0876	0.0880
Italian Lira*	0.0436	0.0438
Belgian Franc	0.02027	0.02037

Other Currencies	Dat	e: 1/3/199
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8080	1.8240
Lebanese Lira"	0.3890	0.4150
Saudi Riyal .	0.1831	0.1850
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2230	2.2450
Qatari Riyal	0.1869	0.1890
Egyptian Pound	0.1940	0.2750
Omant Riyal	1.7590	17800
UAE Dirham	0.1869	0.1890
Greek Drachma"	0.30850	0.3150
Cypriot Pound	0.13890	0.14050

Index	27/2/1993 Close	28/2/1993 Close
All-Share	191.09	191.04
Banking Sector	133.51	133.61
Insurance Sector	212.82	211.42
Incustry Sector	270.63	270.68
Services Sector	251.55	250.09

### **LONDON EXCHANGE RATES**

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

on the London Foret	gn exchange and	0
One U.S. dollar	1.2555/60	
	1.6530/40	
	1.8570/80	
	1.5310/20	
	33.96/34.00	
	6.6060/110	
	1584/1586	
	118.20/25	
	7.8165/265	
	7.0400/500	
	6.3420/520	
One sterling	1.4330/40	
One ounce of gold	\$328.20/328.70	

#### Training course promotes Apple connectivity to various types of systems clients). DEC hosts with (Path-

Arab Susiness Machines, the Apple computer distributers in the Middle East, in cooperation with ideal Systems Co. has conducted its first training course in Enterprise Systems Division (ESD) in the Middle East where 20 ESD coordinators from eight Arab countries had come to participate this course to get an intensive hands-on training showing Ap-

omputing. UNIX Connectivity ith (TCP/IP/NFS, Xwindows

terprise Systems Division for the Middle East. A log of 10 Apple Quadra and ple's connectivity solutions: Apple IIci computers bad been Apple Talk Products. Enterprise-Wide Apple Talk Inconnected through Ethernet to a DEC MicroVaxII running Pathernetworks. Apple's connectivity with DOS, Windows, and works for Macintosh and an IBM. AS400 on a Token Ring Net-Novell networks. Apple's comnunication products such as Mac X 25 and Mac X 400) built long the OSI model. Enterprise

This course was part of Apple strategy in promoting the connectivity of its products to various types of systems.

Canadian dollar

**Deutschemarks** 

Dutch guilders

Swiss francs Belgian francs

French francs

Italian lire

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

works 1.1 for Macintosh). iBM host connectivity (SNA Gate-ways, DAL for SQL 400). Client

Server Architecture (Oracle,

The course was conducted by

Mr. Roger Curtis, manager, En-

DAL server).m.

Norwegian crowns

**Jordan Times Tel: 667171** 

#### China resumes forced bond sales market this year. Banks have some \$200 billion of individual lar profits in stocks and property

and have spurned treasury bills

that barely keep face with rising

inflation. This year's five-year

and three-year bonds carry

coupons of 11 per cent and 10 per

cent nationwide but is now run-

ming at 20 per cent of higher in

In addition, the bond market

was swamped last year with about

100 bilbon yuan (\$17.2 billion)

worth of short-term commercial

paper ranging in maturity from 11

months to three years and with

the Shanghai Securities Exchange

accounted for only a tiny fraction

of the \$4 billion turnover on the

have refused to issue short-term

treasury bills, or contemplate

long-term paper that might

money supply surges and ex-

pectations that banks will be

Fear of rising inflation as

likely further to depress the bond sources said.

appeal to wary investors.

Conservative central planners

Turnover in 31 bonds listed on

attractive interest rates.

bourse in January.

Inflation last year was six per

cent respectively.

major cities.

savings that threaten raging infla-

To soak up excess savings, last

year's government bond issue was

more than double the 10 billion

But plans to keep the amount

rising are now in tatters, thre-

atening important fiscal and

Beijing is relying on the bond

market to cover its ballooning

budget deficit. Last year's deficit

was targetted at 20 billion yuan

(\$3.4 billion), bloated by subsidies to loss-making state indus-

China wants to develop a bond

market to use as a monetary lever

in managing a modern economy.

Outstanding state bonds are now

worth just 100 billion yuan (\$L7.2

billion), about four per cent of

This year's issue will take place

over two months. It was rushed to

the market on expectations that

good corporate results would

gross domestic product.

tion if set loose.

sold in 1991.

monetary goals.

to the forced sale of government bonds after a record issue last year flopped on the open market, Chinese financial sources said.

In a major blow to paramount leader Deng Xiaoping's economic reform programme, provincial governments and state-run enterprises will be forced to buy this year's bond issue worth 37 billion yuan (\$6.4 billion) starting Mon-

It is not clear whether ordinary workers will be made to purchase treasury bills by having their pay docked, a measure that aroused bitter resentment before it was phased out two years ago and replaced by an underwriting sys-

"We have resumed compulsory sales. I don't know in what form but we've gone back to the old system." said one informed source in the securities industry.

The collapse of the underwriting system, started in 1991 and hailed at the time as a break-through in China's efforts to shift away from central planning, calls into question the government's ability to manage a smooth transition to a market economy.

Although the apparent reason is that the treasury bond market is in the doldrums, financial sources said the return to forced

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GENERAL INVESTMENT JORDAN MEDICAL CORPORATION

Oman puts coal reserves

DUBAI (R) - Oman has discovered coal reserves of up to 40 million

tonnes, a senior official was quoted as saying. The official Omani News Agency quoted the senior official at the petroleum and minerals ministry as telling the newspaper Al Watan the reserves were

determined following technical research by the ministry. No other

details were given and officials at the ministry were not available to comment. Diplomats in Muscat said the Omani government had

been carrying out research of its coal reserves for a long time but this

was apparently the first reported figure. Total Middle East coal

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - SEMELSANI TELEPHUNE: 660170 / 003170 CRCANIZED MARKET SERRE FAICE LIST FOR MUNDAY 01/03/1993

reserves at the end of 1991 stood at 169 million tonnes.

at 40 million tonnes

PEKING (R) China is reverting sales is partly a result of government bungling.

Last year's record issue of 41.1 billion yuan (\$7 billion) was mostly underwritten by a network of banks, credit houses and brokerages across the country.

But instead of marketing the issue to the public, the nnderwriters sat on the paper. When the bond market nosedived later in the year they were unable to sell and are now left stranded with at least half of the issue.

"When the government went back to them this year and asked them to take more, they said 'no way," one source said.

"It was a mess, Most of the bond departments at big banks have only a handful of staff. There were no salesmen. How did the government expect people to buy?" the source said. Mr. Deng visited southern Chi-

na last year to launch a campaign to speed the development of capitalist-style markets. Since then free markets in everything from bonds to grains and metals futures have popped up all over the country.

Rolling back a key reform on bond issuing is a reminder of the dangers that await China's other fledgling markets.

Chinese investors have been lured by the prospect of spectacu-

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## Syrian oil output rises 15% in year

forced to raise interest rates are stock markets, the financial

NICOSIA (R) - Syria added another 14.7 per cent in crude oil production between early 1992 and early 1993, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

Syria, an importer only a decade ago, is now a substantial crude exporter, having trippled its production since the mid-1980s. Oil exports bring in more than balf of Syria's foreign exchange earnings, accounting for \$1.7 billion in 1991.

MEES reported output averaging around 565,500 barrels per day (b/d) in early 1993, compared with 493,000 b/d a year earlier and around 160,000 b/d in the early 1980s. This is projected to rise to

600,000 during the second half of 1994. The industry newsletter also said natural gas production was expanding as part of a plan to meet domestic needs and to free up more oil for export. Plans for 1993 call for 55 per cent of the crude

output to go abroad. 'The challenges facing Syria during the nineties are to maintain its current level of production by means of intensified recovery schemes, to persuade more oil companies to explore, and to find the necessary investments for the gas industry....," MEES said.

It quoted Oil Minister Nadir Nabulsi as saying that oil companies

which have pulled out bave done so too quickly, partly because of the weak conditions in the oil market.

"You cannot judge a huge structure with oil potential — the companies would not have come if they were not encouraged by the geology of the area - by drilling only one or two wells," he said. Only in 35 to 36 per cent of the geological structures in Syria has there been drilling, be estimated.

The country is still virgin territory and has considerable poten-

tial," he said. Syria's proved recoverable oil reserves are already estimated at three billion barrels.

MEES said industry observers were suggesting that Syria should offer smaller tracts with more flexible terms, and allow seismic soundings before definite exploration commitment are signed.

Despite the country's hydrocarbon wealth, its capital Damascus faces power cuts of around four hours a day and the provinces up to six hours a day.

MEES said the availability of natural gas, which can be used in

power plants, is no longer a problem.

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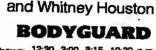
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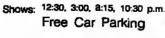
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Happy Feast



المدر سنام عالمي ج

# **Egypt and World** Bank sign accord

CAIRO (R) - Egypt and the three months to May to give World Bank have signed an Cairo time to meet its targets on agreement under which Cairo would get a \$150 million loan for moving forward in its privatisation process, officials said Mon-

day.
"We have signed a technical agreement which will be ratified by the World Bank in a couple of weeks," one official told Reuters.

The agreement was signed Thursday by a senior World Bank delegation, headed by Alberto Musalem and Atef Obeid, Egyptian minister of cabinet affairs and administrative development, and Morris Makrammalh, minister of international cooperation. It followed a week of meetings in which the World Bank delegation reviewed Cairo's progress in privatising its vast, inefficient

and ailing public sector. Officials said the World Bank was satisfied with Egypt's move boost the Shanghai and Shenzhen in putting on sale 18 state-owned companies, reforming its tariff system, and reorganising holding

The Egyptian government last montb advertised its biggest sale of state-owned assets, putting on the block four five-star hotels. tourist facilities and consumer

product firms. Officials and Western economists said the privatisation measures were enough to allow the World Bank to unblock the \$150 million frozen loan and give the International Monetary Fund (IMF) the go-ahead to sign a

negotiating a new economic reform programme. Egypt and the 1MF have

privatisation.

Completion of a first agreement was delayed in November when Egypt failed to meet targets for reducing its budget deficit and moved too slowly on the IMF's public sector reform plan.

Cairo agreed on a budget deficit target set by the IMF but lagged on privatisation.

Mr. Obeid, the minister in charge of the economic reforms. said both teams approved the guidelines for the privatisation process and discussed the government's plan for assets and companies to be put on sale in 1993-

Companies and public invest-ments worth 9.1 billion pounds (\$2.7 billion) would be offered in 1993-1994. Mr. Obeid said.

He said Egypt sold assets and public investments worth 1.2 billion pounds (\$360 million) in 1991. The equivalent of about three billion pounds (\$900 million) have been offered for sale in 1992-1993, he added.

The IMF and the World Bank igned agreements with Egypt in 1991 as part of a comprehensive economic reform programme which will win Egypt \$10 billion in debt forgiveness if it is successfully completed.

But both agencies have since complained of delays in the reforms and the World Bank partially froze a \$300 million structural adjustment loan last June because of its concern.

delayed agreement and start Egypt, struggling with unemployment and poverty, has resisted rapid change to avoid agreed to push back the start of throwing large numbers of people the new reform programme by out of work.

### Analysts say insurers likely to be hard hit by **New York blast**

HARTFORD, Connecticut (R) - The World Trade Centre explosion was a "catastrophe" for the insurance industry which expects large claims from companies unable to conduct business while the twin towers are closed, industry analysts said Sunday. Analysts in Hartford, site of

most U.S. large insurance firms, said they cannot immediately estimate total damages until after the towers reopen because businesses continue to suffer losses, but the explosion was considered "a catastrophe."

Ronald Krauss of the Amer- er and operator of the complex, is ican Insurance Association said. we already know this is going to exceed the definition of a catastrophe, there is no question about

The lack of even basic services, businesses closed for some time as engineers examine the buildings for structural damage and repairs begin.

He said any event in which there will be more than \$5 million in claims and a large number of claimants is declared a catastrophe.

From the New York Mercan- the complex.

tile Exchange to coffee shops on the concourse level, bundreds of businesses were "knocked out of commission and they will be seeking damages," said Cary Schneider of the Insurance Information Institute.

"The closest similar event we can think of is the Chicago downtown flooding in the spring of 1992." Mr. Schneider said.

"Property and other claims there totalled \$300 million, of which business interruption was the largest porition," he said. While the Port Authority, own-

self-insured, it is likely that the quasi-government agency tried to spread its risk over several private companies, analysts said. Mr. Schneider said the most common way to spread risk is

such as electricity, will keep the through insurance companies that handle very large accounts. such as Lloyd's of London, the world's largest insurance market. Stanley Brezenoff, executive director of the Port Authority.

which owns and operates the World Trade Centre, said his agency has between \$400 million and \$600 million of insurance for

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## U.S. drops aid in east Bosnia

SARAJEVO (R) — Three U.S. military transport planes para-chuted crates of food and medicine over Bosnia early Monday in the first of the aid airdrops promised by Wasbington.

The Americans said the operation had gone well but declined to say where the supplies had been dropped. Radio operators in some of the besieged Muslim areas of east Bosnia expecting to receive the aid said they had not yet heard of any parachute pallets

landing. In Zagreb, U.N. aid official Alemka Lisinski said the aid was destined for Muslims encircled in the Cerska area. But a radio operator io Srebrenica, who said he was in touch with Cerska, reported that it was being attacked by Serbs and no relief loads had been found there.

Another operator named Edin in Gorazde, believed by Bosnians to be a prime site for the airdrops, said: "We have no reports from anywhere around Gorazde of anyone finding any food par-

"The Americans should include some healing cream. We all have sore necks from looking up for them.

Other radio operators in the hilly east, where tens of thousands of Muslims are cut off by Bosnia's rebel Serbs, also reported no sightings of American

Earlier, U.S. Air Force Brigadier General Donald Loranger told a news conference in Germany, where the planes were based, that it was difficult to say how accurate the drops had been but the flight conditions had been

"I am hopeful and indeed confident that a number of people are better off than a few hours ago. We dropped supplies without regard to ethnic or religious persuasion." he said.

LUANDA (R) — The Angolan

Armed Forces reported heavy

fighting in the ceotral city of Huambo as efforts to arrange

peace talks between the govern-

ment and UNITA rebels fell

apart Monday,
An armed forces statement

said there had been intense UN-

ITA bombardments of govern-

ment positions in Huambo de-

spite a U.N. call for a truce in the

devastated central highlands city.

killing 25 people and raping two

Brazilian nuns in one area. It said

UNITA had received battalion of

reinforcements from neighbour-

Peace talks in the Ethiopian

capital Addis Ababa collapsed

when representatives of Jonas

Savimbi's National Union for the

Total Independence of Angola

(UNITA) failed to arrive for

negotiations with the Luanda

ing Bie province.

it accused UNITA troops of

The three C-130 aircraft returned to Frankfurt's Rhein-Main Air Base after the six-hour mission during which they dropped 21 tonnes of supplies over Bos-

"Quite frankly it weot very, very well." Gen. Loranger said. There was no evidence of any attempt to interfere with the mis-

For security reasons he declined to give a date for the next mission but said that three to five C-130s would take part each

The planes, flyiog under the cover of oight to minimise the risk of being fired at from the ground, dropped their loads within minutes of each other over the

Military spokesmen said the three aircraft dropped a total of 30 crates of medicine and 20,736 military prepared meals.

U.S. planes scattered a million leaflets Saturday night warning forces in Bosnia not to shoot and to stay clear of the falling aid packages, weighing 704 kilogrammes, until they bad landed safely.

Halil, a radio operator con-tacted in Muslim-held Srebrenica, said no aid had heen found in his area. He bad also heard from the Muslim areas of Cerska, Zepa and Konjevic Polje that relief pallets had not yet been spotted.

"Negative, negative" he said. "So far the information we have from the ground in Cerska is nothing has landed.

"We have men on the ground in all these places and the information is we have spotted

Halil said the people of Cerska were disappointed and desperate because they had found no aid. An operator named Fadil said in Zepa: "It has been a bit noisy here since 1800 last night with shelling and shooting but no air-

The second round of talks

started in January failed after

four days of U.N. efforts to coax

the rebels to the negotiating

ter Mr. Savimbi rejected his de-

feat in the country's first multi-

party elections, monitored by the

United Nations, last September.

weeks has centred on the former

UNITA stronghold of Huambo,

once Angola's second city, where

the government has reported 10,000 civilians killed.

The armed forces said a relief

column composed mainly of para-

military riot police was making

slow but steady progress from the

Atlantic Coast city of Benguela

several parts of Benguela pro-

vince from UNITA, incuding the

It said the column had retaken

towards Huambo.

Fighting over the past few

Renewed civil war erupted af-

table.

Angola reports heavy fighting as peace talks fail

"The Zepa region has been searched thoroughly. There are no food parcels in our area." In Sarajevo, Sir Donald Acheson, a special representative of the World Health Organisation.

expressed concern about health in the Bosnian capital after 10

months of siege by the Serbs.
"The bealth of people io
"Sarajevo contioues to deteriorate," be said. "People io
Sarajevo have lost an average of 12 kilogrammes (just over 26 lb) since May. Another one to two kilogrammes (2.2 to 4.4 lb) and they'd be in trouble."

Fighting was reported to be continuing in Sarajevo and other parts of Bosnia Monday. The city's Muslim-controlled

radio said there was sniper fire around the whole city, especially at bridges and road intersections. after shelling during the night.
Croatian Radio said the town of Zupania, in eastern Croatia, came under sporadic artillery fire

with Bosnia. Serbs also shelled areas around the Adriatic towns of Zadar and Sibenik, the radio said.

through the night from rebel

Serbs across the nearby border

France welcomed Monday's U.S. airdrop of aid into Bosnia but said the mission must not eclipse bumanitarian efforts by soldiers under U.N. control elsewhere in the country.

"It's a good thing the Americans have joined the Europeans in an affair that interests the whole world," Foreign Minister Roland Domas told Europe 1

Mr. Dumas said the airdrop appeared successful in bringing aid to areas that could not be reached overland by U.N. convoys, which have been operating in the region for mooths. .

This operation ...must not overshadow what is happening elsewhere," Mr. Dumas said, cit-

towns of Caibambo and Cabal.

about 150 kilometres west of

There had been a couple of

small clashes between Ganda and

Alto Catumbela about 25

kilometres further east on the

road to Huambo. It did not say

In Luanda, the state-run news-

paper Journal De Angola said

Monday the health situation in

the country was deteriorating

rapidly as a result of the war.

Overcrowded hospitals lacked

One child was dying every two

No further round of talks was

planned and diplomats iovolved

in attempts to end Angola's

agony said the breakdown au-

gured badly for any further efforts to end the civil war.

hours in Luanda's paediatric hos-

when the clashes took place.

Huambo.

ing aid flown in for months by French planes to the besieged Bosnian capital Sarajevo.

"It is good. Bravo, the Americans have come to lend a hand," Mr. Dumas said. "But let's not forget what the Europeans are

Eleven French soldiers have been killed in former Yugoslavia. Mr. Dumas said an international peace plan that would divide Bosnia into 10 regions, drawn up by mediators Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, would require 25-30,000 extra troops, including U.S., Polish and Russian sol-

diers, in the region.

The United States has so far been reluctant to send ground troops to former Yugoslavia.

Mr. Dumas said he hoped the plan, onder discussion at the United Nations, would be implemented within weeks. Meanwhile, Serbian President

Slobodan Milosevic accused Turkey Monday of "war whooping" over the Balkans.

"Statements that Turkey will form an empire from the Adriatic to the walls of China are threatening Serbian and Greek in-terests," Mr. Milosevic said io an interview with the daily newspaper Hurrivet.

"The stand of the Turkish administration is unacceptable. Turkey is interfering in affairs that only interest us," he said. "We hear war whoops from here. These will not only be counter-productive but further harm our

The Serbian leader said Turkey's continued support of Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic would only harm the Muslim population of the former Yogos-

"The Muslims of Bosnia played into the hands of those wanting to divide Yugoslavia," be said.

"It is over. We are leaving today," U.N. spokesman Jaoa

Lins Albuquerque told Reuters.

who have waited since Friday for

UNITA to arrive declined public

comment until the U.N. organis-

Privately they settled at being kept waiting and said they wanted U.S., Russian and Portuguese

observers to use all possible sanc-

"If the talks have collapsed.

someone has to take the blame.

We have done everything the U.N. asked of us. It is time for

the observers to take some action

against UNITA " said one mem-

ber of the Luanda delegation.

troika were gloomy. "I can't see

what will happen next. But there

won't be another round of Addis

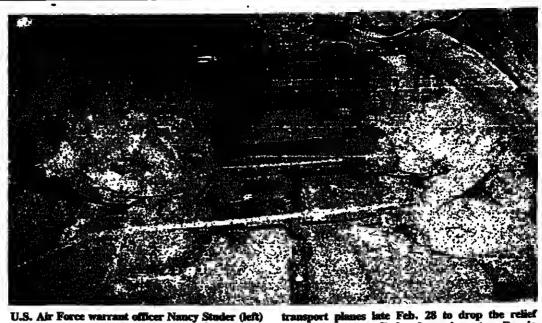
Ababa talks, I can assure you,"

Members of the observer

ers had issued a statement.

tions against UNITA.

Angolan government officials



and Staff Sgt. Ernest J. Brown perform a final examination of a load of food and medicine prior to the take-off of a flight of three U.S. C-130 Hercules

(AFP photo)

### Right widens lead in French polls

PARIS (R) — An opinion poll released Sunday showed the right would increase their lead and win an unprecedented landslide victory in next month's general elec-

A CSA poll published on the campaign said the centre-right Union For France (UPF) alliance widened its lead to 38.5 per cent of the vote from 37 per cent three weeks ago and was poised to win up to 436 of the National Assembly's 555 seats for mainland

The poll left out the 22 seats for overseas territories.

misery for the ruling Socialists, showing they had regained a narrow lead over Ecologists.

It provided some comfort io

But, with 19 per cent of the ote, the Socialist Party shaken by rising unemployment and beset by scandals was seen winning less than a quarter of its oppo-

The Ecologist Coalition, long a marginal force, slipped behind the Socialists at 17 per cent. But they were tipped to win less than eight seats because of the firstpast-the-poll system which favours mainstream parties.

A centre-right leader warned

overwhelming majority was vital for the centre-right to confront Socialist President Francois Mitterrand and start pushing reforms through in the two years to the presidential election. We must count on our voters. rather than wait for the oppo-

nents' voters to desert them. said Jacques Toubon, a leader of the main opposition Rally For the Republic (RPR) party. A depressed economy and 10.5 per cent unemployment edging

towards three million jobless dominated the pre-campaign and both sides voiced bopes for an

## U.N.: Hanoi troops serving in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH (AP) - U.N. officials charged Monday that three former Vietnamese soldiers bave been serving with the Cambodian government's armed forces in a major violation of Cambodia's peace accord.

The accord, agreed to by Cambodia and 10 other nations, including Vietnam, stipulated that all Vietnamese soldiers withdraw

from Cambodia and not return. Hanoi has long said it had met that requirement when it official-

investigations had revealed that three former Vietnamese soldiers were serving with government troops. One of them had recently

Krishna Dasan, the U.N. mission's legal adviser, said the men failed to withdraw when Vietnam pulled out. He declined to give withdrew.

"It definitely was just dyna-

ly ended its 11-year occupation of details.

undermines the credibility of the government.

#### The presence of the meo Cambodia in 1989. But U.N. officials, speaking oo conditioo of anonymity, told the Associated Press that months of

both Vietnam and the Phnom Penh government, which bave long denied accusations that Vietnamese soldiers were working for It could bolster the legitimacy

of the Khmer Rooge guerrilla group, which has insisted that thousands of Vietnamese soldiers remained bebind after Hanoi

### Dynamite may have been used in New York blast - FBI NEW YORK (R) - Up to 680 viduals, New York Police Com- which account for most of the

sives were used.

told the paper. . .

Fox told the Times.

ur could have truck, ver World Trade ... re, a senior FBI official was quoted as saying Monday.

James Fox, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) New York office, told the New York Times the bomb apparently consisted of 225 kilogrammes to 680 kilogrammes of convectional dynamite available at many construction sites.

It seemed not to have been made of any tightly controlled military material like the plastic explosive often used by terrorists,

Five people were killed Friday

when the blast ripped through an underground parking garage at the office complex. Detectives were analysing 55 telephone calls from people who

had claimed responsibility for the

bomb on behalf of numerous

organisations, causes and indi-

and more than 1,000 injured

were due to begin to return to the World Trade Centre, New York's

biggest office building. Only a few thousand of the 55,000 people employed in the

actually be back at work, howev-The complex's twin 110-storey towers — a city landmark loom-ing over Lower Manbattan —

centre's seveo buildings will

The paper quoted law enforcement officials besides Mr. Fox as workers laboured around the saying relatively simple exploclock to stabilise the massive sub-

terranean structures as financial companies scrambled to find ways to open for business Monmite, but a lot of it - which leads you to the conclusion that it was Major disruptioo in the finan-

unsophisticated people," ooe cial markets was forestalled with senior law enforcement official a decision by the Port Anthority of New York and New Jersey to Because of the amount of exreopeo Boilding Foor, which houses the city's five commodity plosive and the size of the blast, nvestigators believe it was carexchanges. The exchanges estiried into the parking garage in a mated that only 2,500 workers large car, van or small truck, Mr. would be on hand.

Mr. Fox told CNN television On Monday morning, workers Sunday that the size of the blast made it mlikely a lone attacker was responsible.

In the television appearance beld hours before the Times interview - Mr. Fox said investigators were going to look "very closely" at the possibility it was a terrorist incident."

He suggested perpetrators could include "drug dealers who are very upset with the U.S."

#### Foreign royals wiii not attend Japan wedding

TOKYO (R) - Foreign royalty and heads of state will not be invited to the wedding of Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito later this year, news reports said Monday. Palace officials would not comment on the reports. The prince's marriage to Masako Owada, a former career diplomat, is widely expected to take place in late May or in June, but a final date has not yet been announced. The decision not to invite overseas guests was taken in line with historical precedent. No foreign royalty attended the wedding of Prince Naruhito's father Emperor Akibito or of his grandfather the late Emperor Hirohito, Kyodo News Agency said. Foreign guests will be limited to those with close ties to Japan's imperial leaders after the gunfire stopped family and the young couple,

TOKYO (AP) — An armed man escaped with 64 million yen (\$543,000) in proceeds from bicycle races Sunday after talking his way into a bank by pretending to be investigating an electric power outage, police said. Electricity suddenly went out in the bank in Hofu, 700 kilometres southwest of Tokyo, and the man appeared at the door in a worker's uniform with white helmet, said a police official, speaking on condition of anonmity. The man brandished a rifle, took the money, locked employees in a vanit and fled on foot, they said. The bank was not open for regular business, burget four employees were counting proceeds from bicycle racing, a popular form of betting in Japan.

### U.S. cult leader frees 8 children after shootout that killed 4 agents

WACO, Texas (R) - The leader of a religious cult was reported to have freed up to eight children from bis group's compound, while FB1 negotiators sought bis surrender after a shootout Sun-day that kilted four federal

CNN television said eight children were released after a local radio station played a tape of cult leader David Koresh speaking aboot his "Branch Davidian" group, which believes in free love and that the end of the world is near. A Reuter correspondent saw

two children being transported from the compound in a police van around midnight Sunday (0600 GMT Monday). Two police vans from Austin, Texas were seen entering the compound, joining an estimated 200 federal and local authorities surrounding the grounds.

Negotiations were continuing between a hostage negotiating team and Mr. Koresh, 33, who previously went by the name Vernon Howell and is said to believe he is Jesus Christ.

Mr. Koresh told CNN in a telephone interview Sunday night that be would release two children each time the local radio played the tape be dictated by

telephone to federal agents. "I gave them a message for the radio. Every time they play the tape, I'll send two of the children out," Mr. Koresh told CNN. There's a lot of children here. I've had a lot of babies these last few years," he said. Mr. Koresh and about 80 other

members of the cult remained inside the fortified compound after agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) stormed the facility on Sunday morning io an attempt to arrest him on weapons charges.

Four ATF agents were killed and 14 wounded during the hourlong gun battle at the compound about 16 kilometres east of Waco. Three cult members also came

out of the compound Sunday night shooting, but agents killed one member, wounded another and arrested a third. Mr. Koresh said he was shot

several times by about 15 to 20 agents who rushed the building as he stood in a doorway in the compound said to hold vast supplies of weapons. "I was bollering, 'there's women and children in here. Let's talk," be said.

He said a two-year-old child was killed during the battle, but did not say whether be was the

child's father. Two adults among the nearly

80 people said to be inside the compound were also shot but were not seriously wounded. Mr. Koresh said. Bureao officials said they arranged a ceasefire with cult

so they could remove dead or wounded agents from the compound known as Mount Carmel Mr. Koresh leads the Branch Davidians, a sect founded in 1933 by former members of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. The group believe Mr. Koresh is the "lamb" referred to in the Bible's Book of Revelations. They believe he is the only one who can open the so-called seven

kind and propel the group to heaven. Mr. Koresh has been described by former cult members as a beer-drinking, guitar-playing, charismatic man with 15 wives.

seals that will set loose catas-

tropbic events that will end man-

Since 1991, police in the Los Angeles suburb of La Verne have been looking into allegations that be made girls as young as 12 years old into his "wives" at a commone-style house there, police spokesman Bill Witzka

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## 36 pianists seiected for Van Ciiburn

Competition

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) Thirty-six pianists from 17 countries have been selected to compete in the ninth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition later this year. The competition will be held on May 22 through June 6 in Fort Worth. It will mark the North American debut for 13 of the pianists. An international screening panel selected the musicians from a field of 260 applicants from 42 countries. Nine women and 27 men were chosen, ranging in age from 19 to 30. For the first time in competition history, there is no required repertoire, allowing the planists to programme their recitals without restrictions on period or composer. During the two weeks of comprehensive performance be-fore the 15-member competition jory, musicians will play a 50 minute solo recital in the preliminary round. The 12 semifinalists will play a 75-minute solo recital. The six finalists will perform two concerti of their choosing with the Fort Worth Chamber and Symphony Orchestras. Winners will he announced on June 6. In addition to cash awards and a recording opportunity, the top three medalists are offered two years of international concert tours and management. The first prize is valued in excess of \$200,000.

#### New tape titbits said to show Diana had affair

LONDON (R) - Britain's scan-

dal-ridden royals faced a new love sensation Monday after an Australian tele ision station said it would broadcast part of a tape suggesting Princess Diana had an extra-marital affair. Australia's ABC Network said it had obtaioed previously unpoblished parts of a telephone conversation, known as the "squidgy" tape, allegedly between the wife of the heir to the British throne and her friend James Gilbey. Mick O'Doonell, the producer of the programme A Right Royal Affair which will broadcast the material Monday, told Reoters in Sydney the tape left little doubt that Princess Diana had a passionate relationship with Mr. Gilbey, not the platonic friendship that previous poblished extracts suggested. "Most people officially interpreted (the first excerpts . Detween Irienasi Albeit Gilbey was a passionate friend. Bot the extra stuff leaves no doubt they were full-on, O'Donnell said in Sydney. If the programme lives up to its billing, it could plunge the royal family into a scandal rivalling the "Camillagate" affair over another tape which is widely regarded as showing Princess Diana's busband Prince Charles had an extra-marital liaison with his old friend Camille Parker

Kyodo quoted palace sources as Saying\_

#### **Armed man robs** bank of \$543,000

### **WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF Turkish foreign minister visits Russia**

ANKARA (R) - Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin flew to Moscow Monday for day-long talks focusing on the Azeri-Armenian and Bosnian conflicts, officials said. "The problems which have erupted in our region after the end the of the cold war closely concern Turkey and Russia, two great countries of the region," Mr. Cetin said before his departure. "We believe Turkey and Russia carry joint responsibilities and can contribute to establishment of peace and stability in the region." Mr. Cetin will also discuss bilateral relations with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozvrev.

### Ukraine rejects Russian peace role

KtEV (R) — Ukraine attacked Russian President Boris Yeltsin Monday over his appeal for a United Nations mandate to act as a "guarantor of peace" on the territory of the former Soviet Union. Ukraine has never recognised and will never recognise that Ukrainian territory is a sphere of Russian special interest. Mikola Mikhailehenko, chief political advisor to President Leonid Kravchuk, told Reuters. "We will never agree to Russia once again becoming an elder brother or any other kind of brother. We want relations of equality." he added. President Yeltsin said Sonday Russia should be granted special powers on the territory of the former Soviet Union to stop ethnic conflicts. "The world community is increasingly coming to understand Russia's special responsibility in this difficult task," be told the influential centre-right Civic Union grouping. "I think the moment has come when responsible international organisations, including the United Nations, should grant Russia special powers as a guarantor of peace and stability in the region of the former Soviet Union."

### Brazilian economy minister resigns

BRAStLIA (R) - Brazilian Economy Minister Paulo Haddad resigned early Monday, Globo Televisioo reported. Mr. Haddad submitted his resignation to President Itamar Franco at 1 a.m. (O400 GMT), and Mr. Franco accepted it. His interim replacement is Eliseu Resende, a former transportation minister, the television report said. Mr. Haddad's resignation came the same day as an International Monetary Fund (IMF) technical team was to arrive in Brazil to review the performance of Brazil's economy, burdened by a stubborn recession and a 1,100 per cent annual inflation rate. Mr. Franco has warned Mr. Haddad Saturday to hurry op with a plan to fight inflation or loss his iob.

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### Lone candidate wins vote in Ingushetia

MOSCOW (AP) — An Afghan war hero, who was the sole candidate on the ballot was overwhelmingly elected president of the southern Russian Republic of Ingushetia, a news agency reported Monday. Maj.-Gen. Ruslan Aushev won 97 per cent of the vote Sunday io the newly formed repubble nestled in the northern Caucasus Mountains, the Interfax News Agency re-ported quoting preliminary results. Magomet Sultygov, chief of administration for the republic, told Interfax the election was peaceful. The vote was vital for the predominantly Muslim republic to establish its political structures in the region that previously was joined with neighbouring Chechnyua. Ingushetia also currently has a serious territorial dispute with North Ossetia.

### on its western border.

Bomb kills 2 at Peru Air Force base LIMA (R) - A car bomb packed with at least 100 kilos of explosives blew up at an air force base Monday, killing two people and injuring at least 50 others, police and air force officials said. The bomb at Las Palmas Air Base in the Surco district of Lima seriously wounded five people and caused beavy damage to a recruiting centre, a nearby school and homes in the area, the

### Philippine kidnap gang chief nabbed

MANILA (R) - Philippine authorities have captured the alleged chief of a police-backed kidnap gang, dealing a fresh blow to kidnappers preying oo ethnic Chinese businessmen, officials said Monday. Eduardo Chang, a Filipino-Chinese trader described by police as the country's second most wanted man, was arrested by a team of police and soldiers Friday. On Feb. 17 police shot dead Alfredo De Leon, the country's most wanted criminal and head of the Red Scorpion group, a kidnap gang composed of former Communist rebels. On Sunday, the group's finance officer surrendered to Philippine President Fidel Ramos. "This is another big blow to them," Police Deputy Intelligence Chief Leo Garra told reporters, referring to Mr. Chang's capture. "The government has the momentum and it will be very hard for kidnappers to now operate around Manila."

### Legendary dancer Ruby Keeler dies at 83

·LOS ANGELES (R) - Actress Ruby Keeler, who danced ber way through a string of classic film musicals that lifted audiences' spirits during the depression, died Sunday. She was 83 years old. A spokesman for the Riverside County Coroner's Office said Ms. Keeler died at her home in Rancho Mirage, California. In her 1933 debut in the film 42nd Street, Ms. Keeler played a chorus girl sent on stage to replace the ailing star with the director uttering the immortal line: "You're going out there a youngster, but you've got to come back a star." Tap dancing became her trademark, and Ms. Keeler went on delight moviegoers with such popular Hollywood musicals as Gold-Diggers of 1933. Footlight Parade, Flirtation Walk, Dames and Shipmates forever. Ms. Keeler made her last film in 1941, but she made a brief comeback at 61 to perform spirited tap numbers io a 1971 broadway revival of the No. No., Nanette.